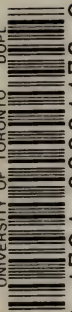


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THE CORRESPONDENCE

OF

Lieut. Governor John Graves Simcoe,

WITH ALLIED DOCUMENTS
RELATING TO
HIS ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT
OF
UPPER CANADA.

COLLECTED AND EDITED BY
BRIGADIER GENERAL E. A. CRUIKSHANK, LL.D., F.R.S.C.
FOR THE ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

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THE CORRESPONDENCE
OF
Lieutenant-Governor John Graves Simcoe
With Allied Documents

VOL. II—1793-1794

EXTRACT FROM THE UPPER CANADA GAZETTE, 1st, AUGUST, 1793.

Navy Hall, Aug. 1st, /1793/

A few days ago the first division of His Majesty's Corps of Queen's Rangers left Queenstown for Toronto (now York) and proceeded in Batteaux round the head of Lake Ontario by Burlington Bay; and shortly afterwards another division of the same Regiment sailed in the King's Vessels, the Onondago and Caldwell for the same place.

On Monday evening¹ His Excellency, the Lieut. Governor, left Navy Hall and embarked on His Majesty's Schooner, the Missassaga, which sailed immediately with a favourable gale for York with the remainder of the Queen's Rangers.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO ALURED CLARKE.

York, August 2, 1793.

Sir,

I do myself the honor of informing Your Excy, that the Queen's Rangers were assembled at this place when I arrived on the 30th July. I have this day been honored with Your Excellency's letter of the 8th July in which you have the goodness to intimate that you will submit Captain Markham's opinion to Lord Dor-

¹ July 29, 1793

chester when he shall arrive, on the practicability of building again the large vessel at Kingston. The officers on this Lake, in general, seem to be of the same opinion.

I beg in a particular manner to recommend to Your Excellency's interest and future favor the son¹ of Capn. Bouchette. He is now in one of the gunboats. By employing him in surveying the coasts and harbours I propose to render him a most useful servant to the Crown in that Branch of Naval Duty so essential to the navigation of the Lakes.

Captain Glasgow has now arrived here, and I shall consult with him on his proposal of placing the condemned cannon in such a manner as may be of a certain additional security to the Bay, and particularly at this juncture, may bear the aspect of that strength which it may not be possible for Your Excellency to supply me with. I therefore propose to avail myself of your permission to remove some of them from Carleton Island. A few heavy cannon and Howitzers have invariably appeared to me necessary to command all our Posts on the Lakes, but especially in those which ought and must, sooner or later, become our arsenals.

I apprehend that Captain Porter must have executed some former order as it is merely from the artillery and thro' Capn. Glasgow that I have as yet received any accounts of his having destroyed the carriages at Carleton Island, and which has been rather unseasonable to my views.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. GRAVES SIMCOE.

H. E. General Clarke.

LORD DORCHESTER'S REMARKS ON THE SUGGESTIONS.

Lord Dorchester's Answers to the Requisitions and Statements for the Province of Upper Canada, as submitted to Mr. Dundas by desire of Col. Simcoe; without Date, but endorsed 31 July 1793.

Answer to Article 1st. This should have been submitted to Major Genl. Clarke specifically, with the Reasons for the Demand: had he approved, he might have supplied those wants from Lower Canada, or have applied for what might be wanted from home.

2d. I know not what Establishments are intended nor what is the Object Alluded to: in general Artificers are very useful in all new Countries.

3d. I know nothing of Commissary McGill's Commission, I suppose he belongs to the Military Department; if so, separate Province creates no Difficulty; it would seem that he must receive his Stores and Provisions from the Chief Commissary, and that, regularly, he should account to him.

4th. This Article is involved in obscurity to me who knows nothing of the Gentlemen or their Commissions, nor for what Services they are destined. I presume it means, not the Governor, but Lieut. Governor, and must observe that the assuming Titles the King's Commissions do not authorize may be attended with much Mischief to His Majesty's Service in distant Provinces.

5th. This may interfere with Major Holland's Commission.

¹ Joseph Bouchette, 1774-1841, lieut. Provincial Marine, 1792-3; lieut. in the Royal Canadian Volunteers, 1793-1802; Surveyor General for Lower Canada, 1804; major commandant of the Quebec Volunteers, 1812; lt. colonel on the militia staff, 1813; author of "Description topographique de la province du Bas Canada," 1815, "Statistical Tables for Lower Canada," 1831, "British Dominions in North America," 1832.

6th. Clergymen of good Character and sound Principles deserve to be encouraged; such are most likely to be found at home.

7th. Emigrants of sound Principles will be of advantage at Detroit, and all through the Country.

8th. It is to be wished they may be considered as English Subjects.

9th. It is doubted whether Carleton Island is within the American Line; the States however claim it; 'tis to be hoped this will be amicably settled.

10th. This requires to be explained; I know not what is meant by a Port in Upper Canada: I see no way to remove these Difficulties and many others that must arise from the Situation of the two Provinces, but by a General Government.

11. Col. Gordon of the 26th Regt. is also a senior Officer.

12. 'Tis to be wished the Frontier may be settled by Treaty agreeably to what is in contemplation; The weakness of the present is too visible; Four Thousand Men should be sent to enable the Canadas to make a tolerable Defence in case the Americans should attack them.

13th. Pensacola will be difficult to obtain, and impossible to protect in case of a War; moreover all Measures hostile to the States I think highly inexpedient.

14th. It would be useful to have all the Seamen necessary for the Lake Service enlisted as Soldiers.

15th. Two Battalions I think sufficient at present for that Purpose.

16th. The particular Defects should have been stated to Genl Clarke and a better Plan proposed.

17. The Seamen may be required to serve on Lake Champlain, or in the River, a Law of Upper Canada will not be sufficient.

18. Quakers are a useful People and of good Example in a young Country: Exemptions may be carried too far.

19. This is very probable.

20th. They are at War for these Rights which will be settled by the Treaty of Peace.

21st. I do not understand this Article: The Quarter Master General's Department receives Orders from the General entrusted with the Chief Command.

DORCHESTER.

Portsmouth, August 4th, 1793.

Endorsed:—Lord Dorchester's remarks on Captn Stevenson's Suggestions. R. Augt. 5. 1793.

FROM D. W. SMITH TO JOHN ASKIN.

NIAGARA, 3d August, 1793.

My Good friend,

.....
Your Common Pleas, I understand, is re-established & the Bench, I'm told, is to be filled by the Honorables Col. McKee & Mr. Macomb.

There has been a dreadful cabal against the Contract Business—Petitions & Remonstrances one on the other very thick—if I had received your Letter of 11 July previous to closing of the Session, I should have been glad—I was alone a long time in my opinion—at length every Member in the lower House but myself consented to sign a petition & not being furnished with matter enough to turn

them from it, my arguments, too, weakened by affliction,¹ I signed with all the rest. I do not think myself that Government at home will alter the plan—& I shall take care to acquaint the Govr. with the liberal terms on which you receive the flour.

.....

 D. W. SMITH.

Mr. Robertson is gone to Toronto, the Govr is there.—he was wishing to arrange so as to make you a field officer of Cavalry. I regret the Difficulty & admire your feelings & Sentiments...

(Unaddressed but obviously to John Askin.)

(Askin Papers, Burton Historical Collection, Vol. II, p. 181.)

FROM ALURED CLARKE TO J. G. SIMCOE.

QUEBEC, 5 Augt., 1793.

Sir,

I am to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's letters of the 13 & 14 June and 10 July, with their enclosures.

The cordial manner in which the address of our Assembly has been received by yours, cannot but afford real satisfaction, and I trust, will lay the foundation of a lasting mutual good understanding between them in all things wherein the honor and interest of either Province is concerned.

It was an omission on the part of Col. Campbell, not directing an Officer of the Indian Department to proceed and continue with the Lower Canada Indians during the Council. Mr. Lorimier is ordered to proceed without loss of time to join them, and return with them when the business of their meeting is over.

The tenor of conduct held by the Commissioners of the United States certainly does not redound to their own honor or that of the Mission in which they are employed. It is however satisfactory to learn that the impression made thereby on the minds of the Indians has been such as to prevent its having an improper effect.

I am, &c.

ALURED CLARKE.

H. E. Lt. Govr. Simcoe.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO JOSEPH BRANT.

YORK, August 8th, 1793.

Dear Sir,

I have just received your letters from the Miami Rapids.

It is with great concern that I hear from you there is any difference of opinion among the Indians.

Peace appears to me to be the most desirable object; and I have always, as you well know, both in private conversation, and by public messages, endeavoured to impress a disposition and temper that may lead to that blessing among the Indian Nations, who have requested my opinion.

¹ Doubtless referring to the recent death of one of his children and the illness of his wife.

But you must see that as the Indians are the best Judges on what terms a Peace may be made that shall secure their interests, and at their own requests, as I have directed their Agents to attend, fully to explain to them any circumstances which they may not clearly understand in the Negotiations between them and the Commissioners of the United States, it would be unnecessary for me to give any opinion on the precise Boundary that may be requisite to secure the stipulations of the treaty now depending from being hereafter violated.

Since the Government of the United States have shewn a disinclination to concur with the Indian Nations in requesting of His Majesty the permitting me to attend as a Mediator at Sandusky it would be highly improper and unreasonable in me to give any opinion relative to the proposed boundaries with which I am not sufficiently acquainted, and which Question I have studiously avoided entering into, as I am well aware of the Jealousies entertained by some of the Subjects of the United States of the interference of the British Government which has a natural and decided Interest in the welfare of the Indian Nations, and in the establishment of Peace and permanent tranquility.

In this situation I am sure you will excuse me from giving to you any advice which from my absence from the spot cannot possibly arise from that perfect view & knowledge which so important a subject necessarily demands.

Be assured of my best wishes for the Union, Prosperity, and Peace of the Indian Nations, and that I am with great personal regard, Dear Sir, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE,

Lt. Govr. Upper Canada.

Capt. Brant.

Endorsed:—4. In General Clarke's to Mr. Dundas No. 93.

CAPTAIN BRANT'S JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS AT THE GENERAL COUNCIL HELD AT THE FOOT OF THE RAPIDS OF THE MIAMIS.

May, 1793.

May 17th.

This day I arrived at Detroit with the Indians of the Six Nations & Delawares from the Grand River, on our Way to the Rapids of the Miamis, agreeable to an invitation from our Western Brethren. Not finding any Indians here, we despatched a Runner to call them to the foot of the Rapids, the proposed place of Meeting.

22d.

We arrived at the Foot of the Rapids and not finding any Indians assembled, we sent a Second Runner to call them to the Council as they were to kindle the fire.

24th.

We sent a third Runner with a large Belt to the same purport as the former to which Messages we received no answer.

June 3rd.

We sent another Messenger directed in particular to the Delawares, during this time many evil Reports were circulated against me by the Shawanoes, saying

I was a Traitor, & that I only came there to receive Money and that they would have nothing to do with me, this the Messenger informed me of.

9th.

A Party of the Principle Men of the Shawanoes and Delawares arrived at the Foot of the Rapids.

From this time to the 15th Inst, no business was transacted and the evil reports against me still Continued;—I must here remark that it has always been an invariable Rule amongst Indians when they meet, to go through the Ceremony of Condolence and to Welcome Strangers, to their Country or Fire Place, but seeing no appearance of this, I at last Determined to call a Council with the Indians here Viz, The Shawanoes, Delawares, Miamis, Wyandots & one tribe of the Lake Indians to endeavour to remove any evil impressions or suspicion they might entertain of me, having met I went through the usual Compliments with a large Belt and removed all obstructions, that their might be no impediment in the Way of Public Business—this they Should have done.

I then Address'd them as follows:

BROTHERS;—

Seeing the business we are invited here to assist in is at a Stand, I have thought it advisable that we should meet together to know the Reason. We are come here with good intentions, but if you have received bad impressions respecting me I request you will now explain it and let nothing remain upon your Minds that may be in the Way of our Public Business.

Capt. Johnny, Chief of the Shawanoes after returning the Compliments Viz. Spoke,

BROTHERS;—

I am very sorry that you imagine that we should entertain any bad thoughts of you, if there are any bad birds they ought to be Punished. We are met here as Brethren to Consult for the Good of all our People, & I hope that we will be more intimate than we have been, and let us encourage our Young Men to live Sociably together. We must have Patience in this Business which is of Great importance and Cannot be done hastily.

The Chief of the Wyandots then Spoke as follows;

BROTHERS;—

I am happy that we have gone thro' our Ancient Customs, I now confirm what the Chief of the Shawanoes has said and request you will pay no attention to any evil reports but attend to the Business before us which Concerns every thing that is dear to us.

Captain Brant then replied.

BROTHERS;—

There are bad Birds amongst us or there soon will be, whom it is our business to guard against. They will say that they know the Minds of the Commissioners but we must not listen to Spies, who we ought to Banish, as we mean to Meet these Commissioners we will hear from them what they have to say. N.B. At this time I was informed that Capt. Hendrick was at Detroit & to whom I alluded.

BROTHERS;—

We have had various meetings with the Americans, but none of such importance as this Will be, it therefore Stands us in need to give it the most serious Attention, and requires the greatest Prudence & Unanimity amongst ourselves for upon the

event of it Depends the future ease and happiness of ourselves & our Posterity, let us therefore coolly consider our true Interest, and disregarding every other object. Pursue that, which is the only means of rendering real service to our Country. I therefore request your serious attention to the great Object of this Treaty, which if you suffer now to escape may not offer again.

BROTHERS;—

We have come a great way to Attend this Council. We know that a Boundary must be established between us and the Americans & we recommend that all your People should attend the Council when a line is agreed upon.

A Belt of Wampum.

Notwithstanding this Friendly Council we were kept at the Same Distance as before and evil reports still Continued against Me. The Shawanoes, Delawares and Miamis, held Private Councils many nights, to which none of the Six Nations were invited.

From 15th June to the 1st July no Public Business was transacted, at this time Colonel McKee asked me in Private if I thought it proper that Indians should be sent to meet the Commissioners at Niagara, and to know if they were impowered to make a New Boundary Line, to which I replied that I thought it a very Proper Measure, but was of opinion that the Principal Chiefs should not be sent, my views in this was that in case the Commissioners answer was unfair or unfavorable we might have time to meet our Enemies.

July 1st;

The Principal Chiefs came to the Six Nations and proposed a Deputation to the Commissioners, and asked my opinion of the Measure, as we had before thought it proper we agreed to proceed the next day and Selected the Chiefs who were to be the Deputies.

2nd;

The Deputies of which I was one, Set out in a great hurry, & some Confusion ensued when we met the Commissioners as no Person was appointed to deliver our Message to them, & which ought to have been done previous to our Departure.

21st;

We returned to the Foot of the Rapids.

23d;—

We met in Council when the Deputies informed the Confederacy that in Consequence of the Business they had been charged with they had met the Commissioners of the United States at Fort Erie, I then made an apology and told the Confederacy that the Deputies went off in a hurry and did not act according to our Ancient Customs, and they ought to have been prepared in what they had to say before they left this, and finding they were Confused when we met the Commissioners, I opened our Business and requested the Shawanoes Chief, (Canawya) to Deliver it. I then informed the Council that the Deputies had acted in the best Manner they could, but if they had omitted any thing or had not done right it could easily be remedied: here the Chief of the Delawares (Buckongehalis) interrupted me in a very abrupt manner, and said he was surprised the Deputies could be at a loss when they met the Americans, those of his Nation had been instructed and knew perfectly how they were to Act, and it was known that the Shawanoes were the People who were to Speak. The Interpreter (Isaac) opposed the Delaware Chief, and told him it was not Customary for a Speaker to be interrupted, and that any reply must be deferred until the Speech was delivered.

I then Delivered the Speeches that Passed between the Deputies & the Commissioners.

Capt. Johnny then Spoke.

BROTHERS;—

We have now heard from the Deputies an Account of their Proceedings in consequence of which I recommend that the different tribes assembled here Consult by themselves. But he did not according to Custom direct their attention to any Particular Object.

I then told the Ottawa Chief (Egushwa) that I thought the Deputies had not Merited the treatment they had received and that I was Conscious they had acted for the best & that my own Situation and that of the Six Nations was particularly hard as I was in a great measure Blamed for every thing and after doing every thing I could to forward the Business they were passing away the time and did not wish to come to any Point Whatever this was hard upon those People who had left their Families at a great Distance and were doing nothing.

July 24th;—

The Ottawa Chief with two others and an Interpreter came and told me he had a few Words to say concerning what passed in the Council yesterday he said he was sorry to see the behavior of Buckongehalis, altho it was not interpreted to the Ottawas yet his Desagreeable looks could not escape his observation, as well as that of the Chippewas, Ottawas, Poutawatamies, in consequence of which the Chiefs of the above mentioned Tribes had a private Meeting yesterday evening, the result of which was that they were to meet me this day to Communicate their sentiments.

He then addressed himself to me as follows;

BROTHER;—

I have considered of the proceedings of the Deputies who were sent to meet the Commissioners of the United States and to settle the Terms upon which a treaty could take place, I am sorry that any difference should have arisen and have to inform you that the Chiefs of our Tribes are perfectly satisfied with your Conduct and that the end you were sent for is Answered.

We now acknowledge and we always have the obligations we are under to you.

You were the Promoter of this Confederacy and from your knowledge of the English, of the Americans, & the Indians, you are able to judge of our true Interest, we therefore place full Confidence in You and are thankful for your exertions these many years past for our Colour, we remember the long journeys and fatigues you have frequently undergone for our interest therefore whatever steps you take in this Business we will agree to, he then said that the Chiefs of their tribes would meet me this afternoon.

To which I returned the following Speech.

BROTHERS;—

I am happy that my endeavours for the good of the Indians, and my Conduct is agreeable to you, I have no other view but the interest of the Indians, and to which all my exertions have uniformly tended notwithstanding which I have displeased some of the Confederacy, but I am Determined to persevere in the same Line from which neither Threats nor Promises from any Part shall make me deviate, but it gives me great concern to be rewarded with ill Treatment.

Some business prevented the Chiefs from Meeting me this Afternoon.

July 25th;—

The Chiefs of the aforementioned tribes met us at the Back of our Camp, 12 of the Grand River Chiefs were present. The Ottawa Chief from Michilimakinac spoke as follows;

BROTHERS;—

The principle men of the Ottawas, Pottawatamies & Chippewas are come here to pay you a Visit.

BROTHERS;—

When we received the Message to attend this Treaty, we got upon our legs & proceeded, we have come a Great way & our intention was to sit behind the rest and hear what Passed, we understand that we were to Strengthen and renew our Union but that has not been done.

BROTHERS;—

The Ottawas, Pottawatamies, and Chippewas renew their former Friendship with the Six Nations and Brighten the Chain.

BROTHERS;—

We the Sachems Chiefs and Warriors and the Women and Children, give our heads, our hands, and our hearts to yours, to be firmly united ought to be the first Business of the Confederacy and by that Bond prolong the Days of our Women and Children, what we say proceeds from our hearts in the presence of the Great Spirit whose Eye is upon us.

BROTHERS;—

We have a few Words more to say concerning the Meeting which took place upon the return of our Deputies. They explained the Speeches that passed between them and the Commissioners which appeared to be very proper, and we were satisfied with what had been done, and did not think that more would have been said at that time on the subject, no part of the Commissioners' Speech appears unreasonable, every part promises fair and their minds seem well Disposed, our Intentions are Sincere, we therefore think a Meeting ought to be held, we should come to the point at once, but we are so long about it that Accidents may happen and prevent this fair opportunity. We all know on what terms we should agree, let us therefore draw those People nearer who are impowered to treat with us.

BROTHERS;—

We have now received our Friendship and are of one Mind, but we expect to meet with difficulties and if they press upon, we must join our heads together and Speak with one Voice and Mind, we place full Confidence in you and Depend upon your Sincerity in Acting for us.

3 Strings Wampum.

As the Chiefs from Buffaloe Creek were not present those from the Grand River undertook to Answer for them. The foregoing Speech being so reasonable there could be no doubt of their agreeing to it.

After Consulting with the Six Nations, I replied as follows;

BROTHERS;—

We have paid great attention to your Words and I hope we understand them thoroughly, it is supposed this Meeting was intended for the good of the Confederacy for which reason you have renewed our Ancient Friendship in the strongest and most friendly Manner. It gives us great Pleasure to observe the open manner you have Acted & which your Speech fully shews we now return you our sincere thanks for what you have Done, we have been in the dark for a long time and could

not see what passed, there was a Mist before our eyes which you have expelled and as this Obstacle is removed nothing can prevent us from joining our hearts to yours for the good of the Confederacy, whatever we have done is for your interest as well as our own, who look upon as remaining in this Country, we are sorry that some tribes will not pay any attention to any thing that opposes their Views of War, but it is our Business to put them right, and if we can by a peace obtain our just rights, it ought to take place and we will not join those few People if they will be so unreasonable as to wish to involve us in trouble when we have no object to Contend for.

BROTHERS;—

It makes me happy that the Conduct of the Deputies meets your approbation we certainly Acted to the best of our knowledge, and what we delivered was the result of Councils before we left this, and if they changed their Minds afterwards, we ought not to be Blamed. We were not authorised to fix the Boundary line but to know from the Commissioners if they were impowered to make a Boundary.

BROTHERS;—

What you have said respecting bringing the present matter to a Conclusion appears to us reasonable, the Season is far advanced and after having come a great way we are remaining here to little or no purpose, we therefore agree with you that those people who are impowered to treat with us should be nearer.

BROTHERS;—

We thank you for the Confidence you have put in us, we will continue to act for the good of the Confederacy from which nothing shall make us Deviate.

3 Strings Wampum.

BROTHERS;—

You the Ottawas, Pottawatamies, and Chippewas, we have now settled so far with Sincerity in the Presence of the Great Spirit who we hope will Assist us.

BROTHERS;—

Will you make known with this Belt our Sentiments to the rest of the Confederate Indians.

A Large White Belt.

The Chiefs accordingly went to the Council house and sent twice to the Chiefs of the other Nations, but they paid no attention to the Message, upon which they Broke up, and came and informed the Six Nations, who in the evening communicated the Business to the Hurons and asked their private opinion in a friendly manner. They Complimented us and promised to give us an answer the next morning.

26th;—

The Hurons instead of answering the Six Nations according to their Promise were employed till 12 o'Clock in private Councils with the other tribes.

About 12 o'Clock the Confederacy met in General Council, when after the usual Ceremonies the Hurons Chief (Chenolou) Spoke as follows;

BROTHERS;—

Of the Six Nations & you our younger Brethren the three tribes of the Lake Indians, we request your attention to what we the Shawanoes, Hurons, Delawares, Viz. have to say in answer to what you informed us of yesterday evening.

BROTHERS;—

We are sorry that you have broke the Confederacy, and removed the Council fire, you have made the Council fire Drunk, you well know the Determination of the Council of the Glaize last fall and which you are now Acting contrary to. This is Scandalous & Shamefull, we hope you will consider seriously of this Meeting

and have patience, it is no matter how long, Sandusky was appointed as the place of meeting and there only it can take place, at that Place we the Hurons will Deliver our Sentiments which nobody is at present acquainted with, a private Consultation then took place between the Six Nations & Lake Indians when the Six Nations proposed that as Objections were made, they should in the present instance give way and agree to Sandusky, but the Lake Indians disapproved of it and said their Cloaths were worn out and they could not go further, in their opinion the treaty ought to take place at the Mouth of this River & that the Ground where the treaty was held could make no difference. The Six Nations agreed to this Proposal and I was requested to Deliver it in Council.

BROTHERS;—

You the Hurons have answered what we informed you of yesterday evening, we then asked your private opinion. You must certainly understand us, we did not remove the fire place we only gave it as our opinion that the Treaty might be nearer the whole of our Speech is calculated for the good of the Confederacy and so far from Breaking it we are now come here to make it Stronger which we have often done before, and we only complain of the Hardships we labour under in being kept here to no purpose, in the Course of two Months that we have been here this is only the third Public Council. We understand that the Confederacy were to Consult here what terms they would make Peace upon, when they met the Commissioners at Sandusky, but we have not yet been made acquainted with any Determination and as the time is passing away it is our opinion that the treaty should be held nearer.

BROTHERS;—

You said well, when you mentioned that the Fire got Drunk, as we observed that Drinking prevailed and perhaps the Smell of the Rum made the Council fire Drunk.

BROTHERS;—

You say the General Council of the Glaize cannot be altered, had not unnecessary delays taken place, we should not have named a place nearer but finding the time trifled with, we wished to bring the treaty to a Conclusion as soon as we Conveniently could, you must remember that you proposed the Meeting long ago, had that taken Place we would have had time to have gone to Sandusky.

BROTHERS;—

It appears Strange to us and we think you wrong to say that you will not deliver your Sentiments until you come to Sandusky. This is the place that was appointed for the sentiments of the Confederacy to be made known to each other, you must here explain your opinion and when we meet the Commissioners, we must Speak with one Voice, this is what was agreed upon at the Glaize last Fall.

BROTHERS;—

We hope you will make your mind easy with respect to the Lake Indians and the Six Nations, they are come here at your request to assist you in making peace for this *our* Country and they have no object in View but your Good.

BROTHERS;—

You recommend Patience to us, you are at home with your Families but you must remember that we have not the same Conveniency.

BROTHERS;—

We assure you before the Great Spirit that we do not mean the least Deviation from the Confederacy, and our hearts are true to their Interest.

A White Belt.

At this time we placed a Moon of Wampum and a Dish with one Spoon in the Council which Signified that the Country was in Common.

Captain Johnny then spoke as follows;

BROTHERS;—

We Return you the Six Nations thanks for your Speech and for renewing our Ancient Customs, we hope you are satisfied, let us therefore proceed in the Public Business, we must now form another Speech to the Commissioners.

The tribes then withdrew to Consult, the Shawanoes, Hurons, Miamis, Delawares, etc. together. The Six Nations and Lake Indians by themselves when they were Seated the Shawanoes Chief Spoke as follows;

BROTHERS;—

We are withdrawn here to form another Message to the Commissioners, we must Strike a Boundary line, that line must be the one agreed upon at the Treaty of Fort Stanwix. I must here observe that the opinion of the Six Nations was not Asked, which I thought strange as in a matter of such importance the opinion of all the tribes should have been asked. The Shawanoes Chief then asked me to put down in writing the Words that were to form the Message. But afterwards the Chief of the Wyandots formed the Message & Lieut. Selby put down the Words in Writing, I was then asked to Sign the Message which I refused as I disapproved it, it was then proposed that young men should be the bearers and the Six Nations were Desired to turn out two, but instead of this the Principal Chief of the Shawanoes and the Delawares went to meet the Commissioners.

28th;—

The Message was sent to the Commissioners.

Aug. 5th;—

The Chiefs returned from the Commissioners who they told when they received their Answer that they might go home or return to Mr. Washington, and they would then have returned had it not been for Captain Elliott.

The Chiefs this day gave an Account of their Proceedings with the Commissioners and Delivered the Answers.

The Six Nations observing from the actions of the aforementioned Indians that no Treaty was intended, as their Situation began to be unhealthy they prepared to Return home, some Shawanoes Chiefs upon this came to the Six Nations and requested them to stay a few days longer as in a Day or two they would come to a final Determination. To which the Six Nations readily agreed.

7th;—

The Confederacy met in General Council, Capt. Johnny Speaker, about this time the Creeks arrived, after repeating what the Six Nations had said some days ago respecting the Moon of Wampum and the Dish with one Spoon, he produced four Strings of Wampum and a Pipe and tobacco which a Warrior of the Creeks took and Spoke as follows;

BROTHERS;—

I am happy that a Council was held at the Glaize last Fall and that in consequence thereof the Confederacy are now met, and I am now come to strengthen the Union and altho these our Strings are small they are full of meaning, our Confederacy is like a house with four Doors and all the Indian Country is in common, it appears to be most exposed to the Eastward but we are determined that no part of it shall suffer if in our power to support it.

4 Strings Wampum.

BROTHERS;—

This is our Pipe, I now take it up to Smoke as a Warrior which I am, our Nation has Smoked it. The White people to the Eastward are encroaching upon our lands, we are Determined to oppose them and we are able to Drive them Back, we shall not sit down until fall, altho we have got up it is not our whole strength. Part of our Force is at present sufficient to repell them, the rest will be ready to Defend any other encroachment.

This Pipe is sent to the Northern Part of the Confederacy who we expect will smoke it that the Southern part may observe the smoke in the Sky, and those that do not smoke it, we shall look upon as not belonging to the Union & who do not mean to Defend their Country.

A Pipe & Piece of Tobacco.

The Pipe & Tobacco was delivered to the Seven Nations of Canada, who with the Six Nations answered as follows;

BROTHERS;—

You have presented us a pipe requesting us to join in the war, but we must defer answering you on that subject until we have settled the Business we are come here upon and our answer will in a great Measure Depend upon the Result of the proposed treaty with the Commissioners, the Pipe must therefore be put away for the Present.

The Pipe returned.

The 7 Nations told the Shawanoes they hoped no more delays would be made and requested they would appoint a Place near at hand, for Meeting the Commissioners.

The Shawanoes replied that what they had said was very reasonable, they then appointed a place about eight miles below this, and proposed that Lieut. Selby should write a Letter which they would send the next Day for the Commissioners, when they came to dictate the Letter Lieut. Selby told them that they ought to answer Part of the Commissioners' Speech before they sent the Letter. The Indians then proposed a Meeting Next Day to form an Answer to the Commissioners. 9th;—

The Six Nations received a Message that a General Council was to be held when we were Met, Captain Johnny the Shawanoes Spoke as follows, to the Six Nations;

BROTHERS;—

We acknowledge that you the Six Nations formed the Present Union, you also joined the Creeks & other Nations to the Southward, you remember the Treaty held at Sandusky shortly after the War, and that the King our Father recommended to us to live in Peace with our Neighbours, at that time you recommended the strictest union as the only means of Preserving our Country and making ourselves respectable, you advised us that whenever a treaty was proposed by the United States, we should all be present, you said you knew the Americans would have Lands, and as the whole Country was in Common whatever was done in presence of the Confederacy would remain firm, if a Meeting was called in the Six Nations Country, we were to attend there & if called here, you were to come to us, but I am sorry to add that this Advice has not been followed, small Treaties have been held at Fort McIntosh and other places, to which all our troubles since are owing.

BROTHERS;—

At a meeting of the Confederacy some years ago, on account of the misunderstanding between us and the Americans we agreed to meet them on the Muskingum in 1787, but this was not conducted properly only a few attended and it created

fresh trouble, after this inattention to what had been agreed upon in Genl. Council, you the Six Nations left the affairs of the Union to the management of us the Shawanoes, Delawares, & Twightwees.

4 Strings White Wampum.

BROTHERS;—

Last Fall we met at the Glaize where we strengthened & renewed our union, at that time you the Six Nations arrived with a Message from the United States, setting forth that they wished to have a treaty, we acceded to their request and appointed Sandusky as the place of Meeting. We then mentioned the Conditions upon which we would make peace, and stated that the old Boundary line which is the Ohio should be continued if the Americans agree to that line, we shall be convinced they are in earnest, and wish a lasting Peace.

BROTHERS;—

We are willing to meet the Commissioners of the United States but our Boundary must be Old line which is the Ohio River, this is our real Sentiments. We now expect to hear also your Sentiments.

A Bunch Wampum.

A Chief of the 7 Nations then said;

BROTHERS;—

We have just heard what the Shawanoes, Delawares, & Twightwees have said. We are ready to Deliver our sentiments but as the Six Nations are better acquainted with the past transactions we think they should Speak first.

Having consulted with the Six Nations, I delivered their sentiments as follows;

BROTHERS;—

I am happy to have at last an opportunity of Speaking to you together it is what I have long wished for, we are now required to deliver our sentiments which is very proper, but that is not to say that we should adopt the opinion of any one part, and by Comparing our ideas together we will be enabled to form a Judgement of our real interest, whatever opinion appears best calculated to support that should be observed, I therefore only request your attention to such part of our Words as appears calculated to promote our future Welfare.

BROTHERS;—

In the first place I am under the necessity of repeating some part of what you have said respecting our former transactions.

When we were at Sandusky, we, upon looking back and weighing the situation of the Indians, gave our opinion for uniting them as you have observed, it was apparent that nothing but that was left to preserve our rights and our Country, we also thought it proper that if the United States wished to treat with us that we should all attend on such an occasion as we will know that Partial treaties would never be observed, and that nothing could be permanent without the Concurrence of all the Nations in a General Council, you have acknowledged the truth of this in mentioning the small treaties that took place at Fort McIntosh and other places.

In consequence of this we advised you to attend a Treaty at the Muskingum, but after this was agreed to difficulties were started by the Miamis, who said they would not attend as the Great Nations above were not present, we had then agreed upon that river as the Boundary, and you the Hurons in particular were of our opinion, when we answered at Sandusky that the Hurons here present and some Delawares had sent word to the American Commissioners that their Nations would at all events agree to his terms, which afforded General Sinclair an oppor-

tunity of taking the advantage of us and making what terms they Pleased with those who attended.

BROTHERS;—

After taking every Precaution for the good of our Country & finding our advice unattended to, we saw that all our exertions were ineffectual, we therefore resigned the Concerns of the Union to the three tribes you have mentioned, we advised them to follow our Steps and act with prudence, we told them that nothing must be done rashly, and in case a war with the States they should not be the aggressors and that the necessity they were under in commencing a War should be clear to the World.

4 White Strings Wampum.

BROTHERS;—

I again repeat that we request your attention only to such part of our Speech as may be for your welfare, and any thing that you look upon as contrary we wish you to point out.

BROTHERS;—

It is well known that for these many years past, we have exerted ourselves for the Confederacy and no part of their situation has escaped our Notice, but after the most serious Attention to their Affairs and after Deliberating & Maturely Weighing in our Minds our Force, Resources, and every local advantage we Possess, we declare our sentiments from the bottom of our hearts that the Boundary of the Muskingum if adopted in General Council, is for the interest of us all and far preferable to an uncertain War, you must likewise consider my Brethren that you referred this line to Lord Dorchester two years ago. I therefore beg of you not to be rash and consider the Consequence of a War in which we are not unanimous.

A Large Bunch of Wampum.

The Chief of the 7 Nations then Spoke;

BROTHERS;—

It is my time to Speak now, as I mentioned before that I was ready. Open your ears to what I have to say, in this Bunch of Wampum are my words and they will be between the Six Nations & the Shawanoes.

BROTHERS;—

I have attended to what you and the Shawanoes have said respecting your former transactions, which I was not well acquainted with before for which reason my belts & words shall be to you to decide upon. My opinion when I left home was that we were to defend the Old Boundary which is the Ohio, and in this opinion I was confirmed by the English as I passed their Posts, you may think I speak very free, as I live at a Great Distance, but whatever you determine upon I will abide by, my words must be true as I have only one mouth.

A Large Belt of Black Wampum, and a Number of Strings laid between the Six Nations & Shawanoes.

I then replied,

BROTHERS;—

We have only delivered our opinion as we have resigned the business of the Confederacy, those Nations are to Determine.

The Chief of the Seven Nations said;

BROTHERS;—

Our Nations have been neglected by the Union, therefore it cannot be expected that we could know what was going forward the only information we had was from

the English, our ears were stopped by the Indians and except the Council last Fall and the Present one we have not been invited to attend, but we again repeat that we are ready to Defend the Boundary of the Ohio.

I then Replied as follows;

BROTHERS Of the 7 Nations, part of what you have said is not true, you must recollect that when we met at Sandusky, that if a Treaty was Necessary we were all to attend, we were invited to a Meeting at Fort Stanwix, and you were acquainted therewith and did attend, the Wyandots went as far as Niagara and Returned, only two or three Shawanoes were Present, we arrived at that Place before you did but had come to no Business, when you came there you passed our Camp and went to that of the Oneidas where you remained during that Council, when we found the Americans insisted upon having their own terms we came away but you remained, how then can you say you are neglected and when we found how you acted we did not think it proper to make you acquainted with our Business in this quarter.

This day, the Chiefs of the Shawanoes and those of the Hurons, Delawares and the 7 Nations of Canada come to the Six Nations and spoke as follows;

BROTHERS;—

We have since yesterday been thinking seriously of your opinion in the last Council, we know that your knowledge of the White People exceeds ours, and that you are from that enabled to form a better Judgement of our Affairs than we can for which reason we are now come to tell you that we mean to adopt your opinion respecting the Boundary line.

A Bunch of Black & White Wampum,
(Remark)

After this meeting, I was informed that Col. McKee had a private Meeting with the aforementioned Chiefs at twelve o'Clock at Night.

We met in General Council when Captain Johnny (Chief of the Shawanoes) addressed himself to the Confederacy as follows;

BROTHERS;—

We now are to explain our final Resolution with respect to this Business, our opinion is that the line made in 1768, and which is the Ohio from its Source, is our just Boundary, we will therefore transmit our Sentiments to the Commissioners, who, if they will not relinquish our Lands, may return. We with this Bunch of Wampum unite our Warriors and this Belt contains the Sentiments of the Chiefs to support them, we now pass it to the different tribes of the Union for their Ratification, and it is our opinion that it should be deposited with the Hurons, the Elder Nation. The Belt and Bunch of Wampum was then passed to the Different Nations, the 7 Nations said they would defend that line, but the Six Nations again stated the Muskingum as the most reasonable Boundary. To which Buckongehalis, the Chief of the Delawares replied by Isaac the Interpreter & pointing to Col. McKee, said that is the Person who advises us to insist on the Ohio River for the line. Soon after the Result of this Council was sent to the Commissioners and the Six Nations moved about eight Miles from the Foot of the Rapids to a place called Swan Creek, where they received a Message to attend a Council at the Rapids.

When we were met the Chief of the Hurons spoke as follows;—

BROTHERS;—

In our former meetings we informed you that we would deliver our sentiments at Sandusky, but as we cannot meet there we will now deliver what we have to say.

Two large Belts.

BROTHERS;—

These Belts and the Words belonging to them are yours, one of them is a belt of peace, and the other is a Road of Communication and these are the Pledges, of the Peace made between our Ancestors.

I replied;

BROTHERS;—

Altho we have no knowledge of these Belts of our Fore-fathers, we return you thanks for preserving them, it is very well to renew them, but we think they should have been Produced at our former meeting.

I then addressed the Confederacy.

BROTHERS;—

Since the Council is now over and you are come to a final resolution, we hope success will attend you, at this time it is not in our Power to assist you, we must first remove our People from amongst the Americans, and if any Choose to remain they must abide the consequence and it is owing to the English that they have not removed from there before.

It affords us satisfaction to learn from all their Speeches that our Brethren the 7 Nations are prepared to assist you, their women & children can be no obstacle as they are in a safe Situation.

A Belt of Wampum.

In the Evening the Chiefs of the Lake Indians, came to our encampment and requested us to promote a peace upon the boundary of the Muskingum which we promised to do and Delivered them a map with the lines marked on it.

When the Council was over a War feast was prepared, and the Chiefs of the Shawanoes singing the War Song encouraging the Warriors of all the Nations to be active in defending their Country, saying their Father the English would assist them and Pointed to Col. McKee.

When we arrived at Detroit a Deputation of the Lake Indians overtook us and repeated what they had before said they gave us a Belt with a Number of Streaks across it and said the tribes which these Streaks represent have made Peace with the Americans, and that they would go to Post Vincent and make Peace also.

Endorsed;—Miamis Rapids, 1793, Capt. Brant's Journal.)

MESSAGE FROM THE WESTERN INDIANS TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE UNITED STATES.

August 13th, 1793.

BROTHERS;—

We have received your speech dated the 31st of last month, and it has been interpreted to all the different nations, we have been long in sending you an answer because of the great importance of the subject, but we now answer it fully having given it, all the consideration in our Power.

BROTHERS;—

You tell us that after you had made peace with the King our Father, about ten years ago, "it remained to make peace between the U. States, and the Indian Nations who had taken part with the King, for this purpose Commissioners were appointed who sent messages to all those Indian Nations, inviting them to come

and make peace," and after reciting the periods at which you say "Treaties were held at Fort Stanwix, Fort McIntosh, and Miami, all which Treaties according to your own acknowledgement, were for the sole purpose of *making peace*; you then say, "Brothers, the Commissioners who conducted these Treaties, in behalf of the United States, sent the papers containing them to the general Council of the States, who supposing them satisfactory to the Nations treated with proceeded to *dispose of the lands thereby ceded*" Brothers, this is telling us plainly what we always understood to be the case, & it agrees with the declaration of those few, who attended these treaties. Vizt. that they went to meet your Commissioners to *make peace*, but through fear were obliged to sign any paper that was laid before them, and it has since appeared that deeds of cession were signed by them instead of Treaties of peace.

BROTHERS;—

"After some time it appeared that a number of people in your Nations, were dissatisfied with the Treaties of Fort McIntosh, & Miami, therefore the Council of the U. States appointed Governor St. Clair, their Commissioner, with full power for the purpose of removing all causes of controversy relating to trade & settling boundaries, between the Indian Nations in the Northern Department of the United States. He accordingly sent messages inviting all the nations concerned to meet him at a council fire he kindled at the falls of Muskingum, while he was waiting for them some mischief happened at that place, and the fire was put out, so he kindled a Council Fire at Fort Harmar, where near six hundred indians of different nations attended. The Six Nations then renewed and confirmed the Treaty of Fort Stanwix, & the Wyandot's, and Delaware's renewed and confirmed the Treaty of Fort McIntosh, some Ottawa's, Chippawa's, Potowatomies, and Sac's, were also parties to the Treaty of Fort Harmar.

Now Brothers, these are your words and it is necessary to make a short reply to them.

BROTHERS;—

A general Council of all the Indian Confederacy was held, as you know, in the Fall of the year 1788, at this place, and that General Council was invited by your Commissioner, Governor St. Clair, to meet him at the falls of Muskingum for the purpose of holding a treaty with regard to the lands mentioned by you to have been ceded by the Treaties of Fort Stanwix, and Fort McIntosh, Brothers, we are in possession of the speeches and letters which passed on that occasion, between those deputed by us the confederate Indians, and Governor St. Clair, the Commissioner of the United States. These papers prove that your said Commissioner in the beginning of the year 1789, after having been informed, by the General Council of the preceeding fall, that no bargain or sale of any part of the Indian lands, would be considered as valid or binding unless agreed to by a general Council, nevertheless persisted in collecting together a few Chiefs of two or three nations only, and with them, held a treaty for the cession of an immense country in which they were no more interested, than as a small branch of the General Confederacy, and who were in no manner authorised, to make any grant or cession whatever.

BROTHERS;—

How then was it possible for you to expect to enjoy peace, and quietly to hold these lands when your Commissioner was informed long before he held the treaty of Fort Harmar, that the consent of a general council was absolutely necessary to convey any part of these lands to the United States, the part of these lands

which the United States now wish us to relinquish, and which you say are settled, have been sold by the U. States *since that time*.

BROTHERS;—

Your say “the United States wish to have confirmed all the lands ceded to “them by the Treaty of Fort Harmar, and also a small tract at the Rapids of the “Ohio, claimed by General Clarke for the use of himself and his warriors, and “in consideration thereof, the United States would give such a large sum in money, “or goods as was never given at one time for any quantity of Indian lands since “the white people first set their feet on this Island. And because these lands did “every year furnish you with skins & furs, with which you bought cloathing, and “other necessaries, & therefore besides the great sum to be delivered at once, “they will every year deliver you a large quantity of such goods as are best fitted “to the wants of yourselves, your women and children.”

BROTHERS;—

Money, to us, is of no value, & to most of us unknown, and as no consideration whatever can induce us to sell the lands on which we get sustenance for our women and children; we hope we may be allowed to point out a mode by which your settlers may be easily removed, and peace thereby obtained.

BROTHERS;—

We know that these settlers are poor, or they would never have ventured to live in a country which have been in continual trouble ever since they crossed the Ohio; divide therefore this large sum of money which you have offered to us, among these people, give to each also a portion of what you say you would give us annually over and above this very large sum of money, and we are persuaded they would most readily accept of it in lieu of the lands you sold to them; if you add also the great sums you must expend in raising and paying Armies, with a view to force us to yield you our Country, you will certainly have more than sufficient for the purposes of repaying these settlers for all their labour and improvements.

BROTHERS;—

You have talked to us about concessions. It appears strange that you should expect any from us, who have only been defending our just Rights against your invasion; We want Peace; Restore to us our Country and we shall be Enemies no longer.

BROTHERS;—

You make one concession to us, by offering us your money, and another by having agreed to do us justice, after having long and injuriously withheld it. We mean in the acknowledgement you have now made, that the King of England never did, nor never had a right, to give you our Country, by the Treaty of peace, and you want to make this act of Common Justice, a great part of your concessions, and seem to expect that because you have at last acknowledged our independence, we should for such a favor surrender to you our Country.

BROTHERS;—

You have talked also a great deal about pre-emption and your exclusive right to purchase Indian lands, as ceded to you by the King at the Treaty of peace.

BROTHERS;—

We never made any agreement with the King, nor with any other Nation that we would give to either the exclusive right of purchasing our lands. And we declare to you that we consider ourselves free to make any bargain or cession of lands, whenever & to whomsoever we please, if the white people as you say, made a treaty that none of them but the King should purchase of us, and that he has

given that right to the U. States, it is an affair which concerns you & him & not us. We have never parted with such a power.

BROTHERS;—

At our General Council held at the Glaize last Fall, we agreed to meet Commissioners from the U. States, for the purpose of restoring Peace, provided they consented to acknowledge and confirm our boundary line to be the Ohio; and we determined not to meet you until you gave us satisfaction on that point; that is the reason we have never met.

We desire you to consider Brothers, that our only demand, is the peaceable possession of a small part of our once great Country. Look back and view the lands from whence we have been driven to this spot, we can retreat no further, because the country behind hardly affords food for its present inhabitants. And we have therefore resolved, to leave our bones in this small space, to which we are now confined.

BROTHERS;—

We shall be persuaded that you mean to do us justice if you agree, that the Ohio, shall remain the boundary line between us, if you will not consent thereto, our meeting will be altogether unnecessary.

This is the great point which we hoped would have been explained, before you left your homes, as our message last Fall was principally directed to obtain that information.

DONE in General Council at the Foot of the Miamis Rapids the 13th day of August, 1793.

NATIONS.

MARKS.

Wyandot's.....	Bear.
Seven Nations of Canada..	Turtle.
Delaware's.....	Turtle.
Shawanoë's.....	Wolf.
Miami's.....	Turtle.
Ottawa's.....	Sturgeon.
Chippawa's.....	Crane.
Seneca's of the Glaize....	Turtle.
Potowatamie's.....	Black Fish.
Connoy's.....	Turkey.
Munsey's.....	Turkey.
Nanticoke's.....	Turtle.
Mohiken's.....	Turkey.
Messasaga's.....	Eagle.
Creek's.....	Bear.
Cherokee's.....	Elk.

Sent with Strings of Black and White Wampum.

A TRUE COPY

A. McKEE, D.A.I.A.

Sup. Intend' General's Office,

MONTREAL.

a true copy.

JOSEPH CHEW.

S.I.A.

ENDORSED;—*Speech of a General Council to the Commissioners of the U. States, 13th August, 1793.*

FROM THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE CHIEFS
& WARRIORS OF THE INDIAN NATIONS ASSEMBLED AT
THE FOOT OF THE RAPIDS OF THE MIAMI RIVER.

BROTHERS;—

It is now fifteen days since we delivered our speech to your Deputies at this place, in which we explicitly answered the written question presented by them from you, and gave our reasons why we could not make the Ohio the boundary between you & the United States. We also mentioned some of the heads of the engagements we were willing to make in behalf of the United States. The particulars together with other stipulations for your benefit, we judged it proper to reserve, to be explained to you in full council, when we should meet face to face.

BROTHERS;—

The next morning your Deputies spoke to us; said they would lay our speech before you, & desired us to wait here for your answer, which we desired & expected might be speedily given.

BROTHERS;—

We have waited fourteen days and as yet no answer has arrived.

BROTHERS;—

It is time to bring the business to a conclusion. The Summer has almost passed away, and we do not even yet know whether we are to have a treaty.

BROTHERS;—

You know that we came to treat with you of peace. We again tell you that we earnestly desire to make peace, and in the terms of peace we are disposed to do you ample justice. But if no treaty is to be held, if peace is not to be obtained, we desire immediately to know it, that we may go home.

DONE at Captain Elliott's at the Mouth of Detroit
River, the 14th day of August 1793.

B. LINCOLN	Comm. of the
B. RANDOLPH	
T. PICKERING	U. States.

ENDORSED;—Speech of the Commissioners of the U. States, to the Confederate Indians, 14th August, 1793.

FROM THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE UNITED STATES TO
ALEXANDER McKEE.

MOUTH OF DETROIT RIVER August 14, 1793.

Sir.

To the Speech we delivered here to the Deputation of the Indian Nations assembled at the Rapids of the Miamis we expected an early answer. We have waited fourteen days and no answer has arrived. We have therefore dispatched Runners with a Speech to the Chiefs and Warriors, manifesting our wishes to begin the treaty without more delay; and desiring to know immediately their decision on the Subject. A copy of our Speech is inclosed.

We presume it will be in your power to forward the business. Your aid therein will be gratefully acknowledged.

The mode in which the negotiations have hitherto been conducted is new; and is as improper as it is new; all the questions which have been stated, might have been proposed to our faces; and have received prompt answers. We must soon close the negotiation, unless substantial reasons demand procrastination; in that case we may think ourselves Justified in giving further proofs of our patience.

We again request your assistance to expedite the business which is the object of our mission, and are, Sir,

Your most obedient Servants.

B. LINCOLN.

BEVERLY RANDOLPH.

TIMOTHY PICKERING.

Commissioners

for the

U. States.

Colonel McKee.

FROM REV. JOHN STUART TO J. G. SIMCOE.

Sir,—

It has been intimated to me by the Chief Justice, that your Excellency has been pleased to nominate me as a Magistrate for this District. I have as great a respect for the dignity of that office as any person whatever, and am as sensible of the compliment paid me by that nomination; but I must beg leave to decline the honor intended for many reasons some of which I think it my duty to mention lest my refusal should be attributed to wrong causes.

In the first place I am totally unacquainted with the common forms of Law; consequently it would require more time and attention than I can well spare to qualify me to transact business with propriety in that time. The novelty of the case in this Country would certainly lessen my influence and usefulness as a Clergyman, and this is not a matter of mere opinion for my appointment formerly as first Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, gave me an opportunity of knowing the sentiments of people at large on that subject. Besides the plea of necessity then urged, cannot now be more forcible, when there are so many in this neighbourhood better qualified for the office than I am, and indeed to speak candidly I do not feel much disposed to undertake any laborious office to serve a people who have always been, and still remain unwilling to contribute anything towards my support as a Clergyman. For these and other weighty reasons, I must beg leave to decline the honor you intended me; at the same time I am truly sensible of the compliment paid to my understanding and probity.

I have intrusted Mr. Robinson with some papers, which at some interval of leisure are to be submitted to your Excellency's perusal. I have since explained myself fully to him on some other subjects, not so proper to be committed to paper.

From your polite attention and apparent inclination to serve me, I am encouraged to remind you of a memorial I formerly presented on the subject of Matrimonial Licenses, etc. The Answer I received was perfectly satisfactory at that time, but as I am informed that business will be conducted in a regular channel under the operation of an act of the Legislature, I humbly presume that the office of Surrogate for this District would not be incompatible with my clerical profession and would probably add something to my present small annual income. If this appointment is not already bestowed, I flatter myself that my offering myself as

a candidate for it will not be considered as an unseasonable importunity, whether I succeed or not.

I am with great respect,

Your Excellency's Most obedient and very humble servant.

JOHN STUART.¹

Kingston, August 14th, 1793.

His Excellency Colonel Simcoe, &c., &c., &c.

FROM C. T. A. SCHOEDDE TO E. B. LITTLEHALES.

FORT ONTARIO, 15th August, 1793.

Sir,—

On the 13th inst. arrived here Mr. Ogden and another gentleman with a letter from George Hammond, Esq., recommending the former to my care and attention. He had a hired boat manned by four people, one of which is a black, but he is a free man of Schenectady and is to return with the boat, and his assistance is absolutely necessary, (they inform me), to their conveyance. From these circumstances I have been induced to permit him to pass. I hope however you will be pleased to acquaint me whether negroes under the above description are likewise included in His Excellency's order received on the 7th inst., or whether it extends to slaves only, or negroes who though free may wish to remain in the country.

I am now under the necessity to inform you that my party after deserters is returned unsuccessfully. The Americans settled at the Falls, taking advantage when the men had entered a house, seized on them, took their arms and declared them prisoners. Ensign Holland who commanded the party was insulted with gross language, and a subscription of three dollars was made and offered to his men in his presence if they would desert.

They were at last, however, suffered to depart. The number of Americans assembled amounted to eighteen or twenty, and they threatened them if ever they returned to send them prisoners to Johnstown.

From these circumstances I hope His Excellency will pardon me for reiterating my request of being completed to the original number of 40 men, at present reduced to 33 (mentioned by mistake 34 in my last) and such a further augmentation as His Excellency shall think proper. I flatter myself likewise that an Indian will be considered as the most proper personage in all future pursuits after deserters.

Amongst my wants and deficiencies I did not mention sentry boxes, concluding that the Engineers would be able to construct them here. As it may be, however, convenient to send them here in a vessel, I beg leave to represent that there is but one in repair and one repairable.

I have the honor to be Sir,

Your most obedient and very humble servant,

C. T. A. SCHOEDDE,

Major of Brigade Littlehales.

Lt. 60th, Commanding.

¹ Reverend John Stuart, 1740-1811, born at Harrisburg, Pa.; missionary for the Church of England at Fort Hunter in the Province of New York, 1770-7; translated the Gospel of St. Mark and a short history of the Bible into the Mohawk language with the help of Joseph Brant, published in London, 1787; after the beginning of the revolutionary agitation he continued to perform divine service, not omitting the prayers for the King, until his house was attacked, his property plundered, and himself and family publicly insulted; detained a prisoner at Schenectady and Albany, 1777-81; exchanged, 1781; chaplain 2nd Battn., Royal Regt. of New York, 1782-4; missionary at Kingston, 1784-9; Bishop's Official or Commissary in Upper Canada, 1789-1811; D.D. from the University of Pennsylvania, 1799.

FROM THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE UNITED STATES
TO THE CHIEFS & WARRIORS OF THE INDIAN NATIONS ASSEMBLED AT THE FOOT OF
THE MIAMIS RAPIDS.

BROTHERS;—

We have just received your Answer dated the 13th Inst. to our speech of the 31st of last month, which we delivered to your Deputies at this place. You say it was interpreted to your nations, and we presume it was fully understood. We therein explicitly declared to you that it was now impossible to make the River Ohio the boundary between your lands & the lands of the United States. Your answer amounts to a declaration that you will agree to no other boundary than the Ohio. The negotiation is therefore at an end.

We sincerely regret that peace is not the result. But knowing the upright & liberal views of the United States, which as far as you gave us opportunity we have explained to you, We trust that impartial judges will not attribute the continuance of the war to them.

DONE at Captain Elliott's at the Mouth of Detroit
River, the sixteenth day of August, 1793.

B. LINCOLN
BEVERLY RANDOLPH,
TIMOTHY PICKERING,

Commissioners
of the
United States.

A TRUE COPY.

A. MCKEE. D.A.I.A.

ENDORSED;—Speech of the Commissioners of the United States to the Indians assembled at the Miamis Rapids. 16th August, 1793.

FROM HECKEWELDER'S JOURNAL.

"August 16th. Two young Wyandots arrived from the council, with a written speech to the Commissioners in reply to their former speech delivered on this ground; which address was both impertinent and insolent, being intended to put an end to the treaty business. The language in the speech was such that no person having knowledge of the Indians and their modes of expression, would believe it an Indian speech; but be that now as it may, there were assembled at Miami by this time fifteen hundred warriors, and, anxious for mischief, they threw off the mask. The messengers, having gone off agreeably to Simon Girty's orders after they had delivered their message, the Commissioners sent after them, desiring them to take an answer back to the council, which they agreed to. We saw quite plainly that the Indians were not allowed to act freely and independently, but under the influence of evil advisers; wherefore this speech was to convince them of the pains the United States had taken to bring about a peace with them; and that as they had slighted this golden opportunity and been inattentive to their own welfare and disappointed the United States, they must abide by the consequence, and blame themselves and their advisers alone if the result should be disastrous."

(From Rondthaler's life of Heckewelder, pp. 134-5, quoted by C. W. Butterfield, History of the Girtys, pp. 279-80.)

EXTRACTS FROM A "JOURNAL OF A TREATY HELD IN 1793 WITH
THE INDIAN TRIBES NORTH WEST OF THE OHIO, BY
COMMISSIONERS OF THE UNITED STATES."

BY GENERAL BENJAMIN LINCOLN.

.....
May 25. Immediately on my arrival at Niagara, Governor Simcoe sent for me; the other Commissioners were with him; he shewed me my room. We remained with him a number of days; but knowing that we occupied a large proportion of his house, and that Mrs. Simcoe was absent, and so probably on our account, we contemplated a removal, and of encamping at the Landing, six miles from this place, where the Friends were encamped. But when the Governor was informed of our intentions, he barred a removal. His politeness and hospitality, of which he has a large share, preventing our executing the designs we had formed. This was in a degree painful, because we could not see a period to it, as the time of assembling the Indians was uncertain.

June 4. The King's birth-day; to all the ceremonies of which our duty required us to attend. At eleven o'clock the Governor had a levee at his house, at which the officers of the government, the members of the legislature, the officers of the army, and a number of strangers attended. After some time the Governor came in, preceded by two of his family. He walked up to the head of the hall, and began a conversation with those standing in that part of the hall, and went around to the whole, and I believe spoke with every person present. This was soon over, and we all retired. At one o'clock there were firings from the troops, the battery, and from the ship in the harbor. In the evening there was quite a splendid ball, about twenty well-dressed, handsome ladies, and about three times that number of gentlemen present. They danced from seven to eleven. Supper was then announced, where we found every thing good, and in pretty taste. In all this there was not anything very particular; the music and dancing were good, and every thing was conducted with propriety. What excited the best feelings of my heart, was the ease and affection with which the ladies met each other; although there were a number present whose mothers sprang from the aborigines of the country. They appeared as well dressed as the company in general, and intermixed with them in a manner which evinced at once the dignity of their own minds and the good sense of others. These ladies possess great ingenuity and industry, and have great merit; for the education they have acquired is owing principally to their own industry, as their father, Sir William Johnson was dead, and the mother retained the dress and manners of her tribe.

Governor Simcoe is exceedingly attentive to these public assemblies, and makes it his study to reconcile the inhabitants, who have tasted the pleasures of society, to their present situation, in an infant province. He intends the next winter to have concerts and assemblies very frequently. Hereby he at once evinces a regard to the happiness of the people, and his knowledge of the world; for while people are allured to become settlers in this country, from the richness of the soil and the clemency of the seasons, it is important to make their situation as flattering as possible.

.....
June 9. Dined with Mr. Hamilton at the Landing, (Queenstown.) Towards evening we left his house, and rode as far as the Falls, where we lodged, nine miles. There are a number of new settlements on the road, and one small meeting-house.

The lands are generally covered with white oak, but they are neither strong nor well improved.

June 10. In the morning I went to view the Falls of Niagara. After breakfast we pursued our journey towards Buffalo Creek, a few miles up which lives a number of the Seneca tribe. We found in our route a bad road, the lands flat, and a great proportion of the timber white oak. On finding that we could not cross the ferry, the waters which divide the United States from Upper Canada, we lodged about three miles below the ferry.

June 11. In the morning we crossed over to the United States, near the mouth of Buffalo Creek. There we took a boat, and went up the creek near to one of the Seneca towns.

June 12. We took leave of some of the chiefs and returned in our boat to Buffalo Creek where we dined; then mounted our horses, recrossed the ferry, and put up at night at the house we left the morning before, three miles from Lake Erie.

June 13. Confined by a heavy rain.

June 14. We returned to Navy Hall.

June 15. Col. Pickering, Mr. Dean, and myself crossed the river, and went to Fort Slauser, eight miles above Queenstown, on the opposite side of the river, and just above the Falls. At this place, the goods, after being taken across land from what is called the Landing, were re-shipped and carried into Lake Erie, and thence on to Detroit. Since this side is in the limits of the United States, the British have made a way on the west side of the communication between the lakes. All goods must be carried by the Falls ten miles on one side, or eight on the other (U.S.) At Fort Slauser, where there is a corporal's guard, we found Mr. Stedman, whose attentions and friendship were such as could not fail to make our stay with him very agreeable.

June 16. In the morning we went to pay a visit to the Tuscarora villages. They were about half a mile one from the other, and about four miles from Queenstown, or the Landing. In the first were thirty-odd houses, and in the other about twelve.

Nothing very particular took place from the 16th to the 25th, the day our express returned from Philadelphia.

June 26. We left our lodgings at Governor Simcoe's, where we had been treated with attention. On our departure he gave a letter to those who had care of the Indians, relative to their supplies; in which he expressed himself in the strongest terms, that, in case the treaty should not produce a peace, care should be taken that the Commissioners should not be injured or insulted by the savages; for that an injury to them would greatly affect him, the commander in chief, the British nation, and even the king himself. This, I suppose, had its origin from a report, which circulated pretty generally, that the Indians intended, if they could not make peace, to commence hostilities on the spot, by sacrificing the Commissioners, &c. We arrived in the evening at the Landing, where we lodged. The common cherries and the currants are now ripe enough to eat.

June 27. This day we left the Landing, and travelled to Chippewa, ten miles; here we waited until our baggage could be forwarded.

June 28. Lodged on the road.

June 29. This day we went to Lake Erie from Chippewa to see the vessel in which we were to embark; but as we were not ready for this, we returned four miles, and lodged where we lodged the night before.

June 30. This day we went on board the vessel, where I continued without going on shore until July 2d.

July 2. I went on shore and examined the rocks thereon.....

While at Fort Erie, the commanding officer invited me into his garden, which was very handsomely laid out, and in excellent order, and vegetation in great forwardness. Besides having the common cherry, the currant, &c., I found his potatoes in blossom, as also his cucumbers, his melons, and his Indian beans ready to be eaten as stringed beans, and his Windsor beans fully grown. These observations are of no other importance than as they show the state of vegetation in this climate on the 2d of July.

July 3. I dined on shore with Captain Pratt. We had from his garden, peas, beans, &c., as also new potatoes, which were planted about the middle of April, and were now as big as eggs.

July 5. The wind remaining against us, a British vessel appeared in sight with a number of Indians on board. On the arrival of the vessel, we found that in her had arrived a large Deputation from the council-fire at the Rapids of the Miami. In two points they wanted satisfaction, the first respecting the movements of our army, and the second whether we were fully authorized to run and establish a new line between us and them.

The Indians assembled and gave notice to the Commissioners that they desired to speak with them. The Commissioners attending, a Shawanese chief (called Cat's Eyes,) addressed us thus.

Brothers,

We are sent by the nations of Indians assembled at the Rapids of Miami, to meet the Commissioners of the United States. We are glad to see you here. It is the will of the chiefs of those nations that our Father, the Governor of this Province, should be present, and hear what we have to say to you, and what you have to say to us.

Brothers,

Do not make yourselves uneasy that we did not meet you at the time proposed, at Sandusky. The reasons thereof will be mentioned at another time. *Four Strings of black and white Wampum delivered to the Commissioners.*

To which the Commissioners replied.

The Commissioners are glad to see you. We will confer with you in the presence of your Father, the Governor of this Province at any time and place which shall be convenient to him and you.

Returned the four Strings.

The chiefs having consulted a few moments by themselves, again asked the attendance of the Commissioners, and proposed that the meeting should be at the Governor's, at Niagara; to which the Commissioners agreed, informing the chiefs that they would be at the Governor's to-morrow night.

July 7. Before the arrival of the Commissioners at the council-house from Navy Hall, while waiting for them, Captain Brant spoke in the name of the deputies of the western Indians.

(The report of the speeches substantially agrees with that contained in the records of the Indian Department, printed herein.)

July 10. Left Navy Hall. Lodged at Chippewa.

July 11. Arrived on board, where we are now waiting for the return of the Indians and a fair wind.

According to our promise we wrote to the President on the complaints made that our army was approaching, and sent to the Secretary of War a copy of all our official transactions, which had a tendency to show the real state of matters respecting the treaty. In addition thereto I wrote him the following private letter.

Niagara, 10th July, 1793.

My Dear Sir,

Having my pen in my hand I cannot help making an observation or two relative to appearances here, which may not be so fully expressed in our public communications.

At our several meetings with the delegates from the tribes assembled in council at the Rapids of the Miami, a great number of people attended the hearing; among which many were from the United States. Yesterday, after we covered up the council-fire, all classes of men seemed to unite in the idea that a peace would be established. Perhaps they are too sanguine in their expectations; I hope they are not. However that may be, such a sentiment will spread; for many of our people are on their return, and will doubtless give their opinion on the state of matters. It becomes therefore, if possible, of infinitely more importance than ever, that no movements of our army should intervene and destroy the present favorable appearance of things. For after the people are once flushed with the hope of peace, they will not be easily satisfied, if to any improper conduct on our part, they should be under the painful necessity of sacrificing the pleasing hope that the war will soon terminate.

If the reports which circulate here from different quarters are in any degree true, General Wayne must have violated the clearest principles of a *truce*. Certainly we expected from the nature of all the transactions of the United States, they considered themselves as bound by its laws, as established by the different nations. The Commissioners could not have painted to themselves any hope of personal security but in such a belief. For if there is no *truce* existing, they are just throwing themselves into the hands of the savages at open and active war.

The Commissioners are not so apprehensive for themselves, as for the honor of the United States, and the success of their mission.

If the present treaty, in this stage of it, should be broken up by the movements of our army, by the advancement of stores, other than those necessary for the several garrisons, by cutting of roads, or by any military transaction against the laws of war, our country will be highly irritated, and the blame will fall somewhere; not on the President, you know. The eyes of our country, as well as the eyes of our neighbors, are upon you.

Adieu.

Believe me, &c.

Secretary of War.

While at Navy Hall, a deputation from the Seven Nations of Canada arrived; they amounted to two hundred and eighty. They appear in their color, manners and dress similar to those in this neighborhood.....

July 14. We left Fort Erie early in the morning. As we sailed on our course, an extensive lake opened to our view, and a pleasing appearance of the lands on shore.....

July 21. We arrived at the west end of Lake Erie, where we landed, and the vessel pursued her course up the river to Detroit. The Commissioners could not obtain permission to visit it, although we were within eighteen miles of the garrison. Upon our landing, we were conducted to the house of Captain Eliot, who received us with hospitality, and gave us the use of his house, garden, &c. The morning after our arrival, we had a full supply of boiled green corn, which was well grown. Eliot has the best farm I have seen in the country by far. He has in possession the grounds on which the Indians formerly lived, and where the French first sat down to open a trade with the natives. The savages afterwards cut off the settlement, and the French then began at Detroit, where they always maintained their ground, and which I hear is now a handsome settlement, within the limits of the United States. As the people have not settled far from the river, a full view is had of their improvements as you sail up, and the whole may be seen as you pass.

July 29. Captain Eliot arrived with a deputation of upwards of twenty Indians from the nations assembled at the foot of the Rapids of the Miami. He delivered us a letter from Col. McKee, acknowledging the receipt of one, &c. which we had sent him.

July 30. In council at Captain Eliot's, at the mouth of Detroit river. Present, The Commissioners and other citizens of the United States, the deputation of Indians, and the British officers and inhabitants.

The deputation addressed the Commissioners as follows, viz. a Wyandot chief (whose name signifies "Carry-one-about,") being their speaker.

Brothers, listen.

We are glad to see you here in peace, and thank the Great Spirit which has preserved us to meet again.

Brothers, we were sent to speak to you some time ago at Niagara. Some chiefs are now here who were then present.

Brothers, we did not explain ourselves to each other, and we did not rightly understand each other.

Brothers, we desire that we may rightly understand each other. We have thought it best that what we had to say should be put into writing, and here is the meaning of our hearts, (presenting the paper to the Commissioners.)

The above speech was interpreted by Simon Girtie, a British interpreter.

The Commissioners received the paper, and told the deputation that they would consider the subject of it and return an answer in writing, and give them notice when they were ready to deliver it. The contents of the paper were as follows, viz.

(The document agrees with the copy in the records of the Indian department.)

July 31. At the close of the afternoon, the Commissioners delivered the following answer to the deputation, viz.

(The reply cited agrees with the copy preserved in the records of the Indian department.)

This speech was read by paragraphs, and interpreted by Mr. Jones into the Seneca tongue, and then delivered to the oldest chief with a white belt and with thirteen stripes of black wampum.

The deputation said that it was too late to make any reply, but they would speak to us in the morning.

August 1, 1793. Present as yesterday.

The Wyandot chief arose and spoke, which was interpreted by Simon Girtie.

Brothers, we are all brothers you see here now.

Brothers, It is now three years since you have desired to speak with us. We heard you yesterday and understand you well, perfectly well. We have a few words to say to you.

Brothers, You mentioned the treaties of Fort Stanwix, Beaver Creek, and other places. Those treaties were not complete. There were but few chiefs who treated with you. You have not bought our lands; they belong to us. You tried to draw off some of us.

Brothers, Many years ago we all know that the Ohio was made the boundary; it was settled by Sir William Johnson. This side is ours; we look upon it as our property.

Brothers, You mention General Washington. He and you know you have houses and people on our lands. You say you cannot move them off; and we cannot give up our lands.

Brothers, We are sorry we cannot come to an agreement. The line has been fixed long ago.

Brothers, We do not say much. There has been much mischief on both sides. We came here upon peace, and thought you did the same. We shall talk to our head warriors; you may return whence you came and tell Washington.

The council here breaking up, Captain Eliot went to the Shawanese chief, Kakaipalathy, and told him that the last part of the speech was wrong. That chief came back and said it was wrong. Girtie said he had interpreted truly what the Wyandot chief spoke. An explanation took place, and Girtie added as follows, viz.

Brothers,

Instead of going home, we wish you to remain here for an answer from us. We have your speech in our breasts, and shall consult our head warriors.

The Commissioners then said that they would wait to hear again from their council at the Rapids; but desired that this answer might be without delay.

August 2. I walked, towards evening, on the bank of the river; was discovered by a man of observation, who met me and carried me to his house.

Thursday, Aug. 8. Nothing particular of a public nature passed from the 1st until this evening, when there arrived two of Captain Hendrick's men, with letters requesting some necessaries may be sent to him, and informing of the proceedings of the Indian Councils at the Miami, and the disposition of the Indian nations relative to peace and war after our speech of the 31st ult. had been interpreted to them. By the information of the letters and messengers, it appeared that all the nations were for peace, except the Shawanese, Wyandots, Miamis and Delawares; that these had at length yielded to the opinion of the other nations; and that peace would probably be made. Captain Hendrick also expressed his opinion that we should receive an invitation from all the confederated nations to meet them near the mouth of the Miami this week.

Aug. 9. Twelve Munsees and Chippeways arrived. They said that they came to this side of the river on purpose to see the Commissioners of the United States. They confirmed generally the information of Hendrick's men. They said that they were on their way home, (except a Munsee who lives at Sandusky,) for they had worn out their clothes, and were tired of the long continuance of the treaty; and they expected, the greatest difficulties being got over, the chiefs (some of all the nations remaining at the council,) would now make peace. Two of the oldest of them said, that when the warriors, who were going home, were about to leave the

council, they enjoined it on their chiefs to make peace, that they might without fear or interruption return to their hunting.

Captain Bunbury (one of the British officers who accompanied the Commissioners) says that one of the twelve Indians who arrived to-day is an Ottawa (or Tawa, as the name is often spoken,) and that he said that the Shawanese and others are strong for war, and will not abide by a peace into which they shall be dragged by the other nations.

Sunday, Aug. 11. The king's vessel, called the Chippewa, arrived from Detroit, bound for Fort Erie. Twelve Senecas, including women and children, and most of them sick, from the Indian council at the Rapids of the Miami, came in her. These Senecas are well known to General Chapin; and Jones, the interpreter, an intelligent man, gave us the like information about the proceedings of the council upon our last speech, with that received from Hendrick's men and the Munsees and Chippeways; only that the four nations who inclined to continue the war, remained obstinate when he departed from the council; that the Six Nation chiefs had twice addressed them, urging them to agree to a peace; and if they were still obstinate, would exceed their usual custom, and speak a fourth time; and if without effect, that they would then leave and go home. He says the Farmer's brother told him and his company, that they might expect to be overtaken by messengers to the Commissioners before they (the informant and his company) reached Detroit; but if none arrived before they got down to the Commissioner's quarters, that they might conclude no peace would be made. This Seneca said that excepting the four nations before mentioned, the Indians were for peace. He particularly mentioned the Six Nations, and the Seven Nations of Canada, as strongly recommending to the hostile Indians to make peace; and that, for this purpose, Captain Brandt and the Farmer's brother spoke a great deal in council. He added that of the four excepted nations near one half were disposed for peace; and that the Mesasaugues, Chippeways, and Ottawas, are as strong for peace as the Seven Nations of Canada.

Monday, Aug. 12. No deputation or official information from the Indian council having yet arrived, the Commissioners judged that it would be expedient to proceed without more delay to the Miami bay or river, that they might more easily and expeditiously send to, and receive an answer from them. They accordingly wrote the following letter to Captain Ford, commanding the vessel assigned by Governor Simcoe for their accomodation.

MOUTH OF THE DETROIT RIVER, Aug. 12, 1793.

Sir,

We have been waiting here twelve days for a reply to our last answer to the Indian nations assembled at the Rapids of the Miami. We can think of no sufficient excuse for this delay, and must therefore take measures to obtain that reply, or to ascertain whether we ought any longer to expect it. For this purpose, we judge it proper to proceed ourselves to the Miami bay or river, that the necessary communication with the Indians may be easy and expeditious; for it is time that the business of our mission be brought to an issue. We therefore request you to be prepared to sail to-morrow morning, when we propose to embark.

We are, Sir, yours, &c.

BENJAMIN LINCOLN, Commissioners
BEVERLEY RANDOLPH, of the
TIMOTHY PICKERING. United States.

Captain Jos. Ford, commanding the Dunmore.

Captain Ford having read the letter, came and informed the Commissioners that he was instructed to attend the Commissioners, but to receive his orders from Captain Bunbury; and desired us to speak to him. We spoke to Captain Bunbury and told him that Governor Simcoe had assigned the Dunmore, Captain Ford, to the use of the Commissioners, and that from what the Governor and his Secretary had repeatedly said, we had a right to conclude she was under our direction, to go when and where we thought proper, for the purpose of the treaty, except to Detroit. He said that he had his orders from Governor Simcoe, and that by those orders he could not consent that the Commissioners, or any deputation from them, should go to the Miami bay or river, until Col. McKee should give notice that the Indians were ready to receive them. But, says he, if the Commissioners choose to go to Sandusky, I will order the Dunmore to proceed thither. He read some passages in Governor Simcoe's letter to him. The Commissioners asked if he would give an extract of the letter containing his orders. He answered, that Mr. Storer might take an extract. They retired together; Capt. Bunbury read, and Mr. Storer wrote down from his mouth, the following words as an extract from the Governor's letter.

Extract of a letter from Col. Simcoe to Captain Bunbury, dated at Navy Hall, 28th June, 1793.

"The directing the king's vessel to carry them (the commissioners) thither. She will anchor, therefore, as conveniently as possible to the northern shore of the river, on the banks of which they propose to remain until they hear from Col. McKee. The Indians do not wish they should visit the opposite shore."

Detroit River, 12th August, 1793. The above extract was this day verbally given me by Capt. Bunbury, who, though desired, refuses to sign it.

Tuesday, August 13th. Being thus prevented from proceeding to the Miami Bay, the Commissioners concluded to send a message to the Indian nations at the Rapids, and a letter to Col. McKee. The message and letter here follow.

(They agree with those preserved in the records of the Indian department.)

.....
 These papers were forwarded by two runners, with seven strings of black and white wampum, with instructions to inform Capt. Brandt, the Farmer's Brother, the Corn-Planter, the Fish-carrier, and Great Sky, that they had the speech, and request that the chiefs might be assembled, that it might be immediately delivered. They were then to deliver the letter to Col. McKee. After this they were to find Capt. Hendrick, and notify him that they had brought a speech &c. and let him, Brandt and Col. McKee know when they were to return. They were instructed also not to divulge their business on the road.

.....
 (Copies of Lord Dorchester's speech to the Indians at Quebec, delivered on 15 August, 1791, of the reply of the Western Indians to the Commissioners, dated at the foot of the Miami Rapids, 13th August, 1793, and of the reply from the Commissioners to the latter, 16th August, 1793, here follow.)

As the Commissioners supposed that the Six Nations were strangers to the last speech from the council at the Rapids of Miami, they thought it their duty to write to the chiefs of those nations in the following terms, viz.

To the Chiefs of the Six Nations.

Brothers,

Two runners were sent by us this week, with a message dated the 14th of this month to the Indian nations assembled at the Rapids of Miami. Our instructions

to the runners were, to inform you that they had such a message from us; and to request you to assemble the chiefs of the other nations, and then to deliver it to you all together. From the report of the runners, we are apprehensive that they mistook our orders, and that our message has not been communicated to you. We therefore now send a copy of it. We at the same time sent a letter to Col. McKee, of which also we inclose a copy.

Brothers,

Our runners returned hither this evening. But a few hours before their arrival two Wyandot runners arrived with a written answer to our speech of the 31st of last month, insisting on the Ohio as the boundary between the Indian lands and those of the United States. As we have already explicitly declared that we could not make the Ohio the boundary, the business was of course at an end. However, we delivered a short speech in writing to the same runners, who set off this evening to return to the council at the Rapids. We inclose a copy of it.

Brothers,

Being desirous that you should be fully informed of these transactions, we have sent you copies thereof, which you may not otherwise obtain.

Brothers,

We came hither with the most sincere desire to make a peace that would be beneficial to the Indians as well as to the United States. And had such a peace been accomplished, we felt a confidence that the justice and humanity of the United States, according to their present views of Indian affairs, would not only have continued, but extended their beneficence to the Indian nations; and so far as depended on them, have rendered the peace as lasting as the hills. And we should have been extremely happy in laying the foundations of so much good. We have now only to return home, and report our proceedings to the President of the United States. We shall sail with the first fair wind to Fort Erie.

BENJAMIN LINCOLN
BEVERLEY RANDOLPH
TIMOTHY PICKERING.

*Commissioners
of the
United States.*

Mouth of the Detroit River, August 16th, 1793.

Captain Wellbank, who arrived at the Miami Rapids with the Creeks and Cherokees, went to Detroit. There he demanded of the commanding officer a passage to Fort Erie; which was accordingly granted him. His wishes were to see Gov. Simcoe, with whom he had business, or for whom he had letters. He returned to Detroit in the Chippewa, and came down to the mouth of the river the eleventh instant. On the 13th he called on the Commissioners and dined with us. As he had lived among the Indians of the Creek nation, and was conversant with the Cherokees, we made inquiries into the causes of the hostilities, and what were their complaints.

August 14th. Captain Wellbank being with us, said that his business in coming was of a mercantile nature, relative to supplying the Indians with goods; that he wished for peace, but desired that justice might be done to the Indians; that the Creeks had been dissatisfied with the high price of goods they received from the Spaniards, but they would soon obtain relief, for the chiefs had applied to the king of Great Britain, praying that they might have their supplies from the British; that an Act of Parliament had been passed for the purpose; and a port, about seven miles westward of the mouth of Apalachicola river was to be the place of entry; that the house of Panton, Leslie & Co. of Pensacola, at the close of the war

in the year 1783, obtained permission from the king of Spain to supply the Indians with goods for the space of ten years.

.....
Aug. 17. Our business being over, we left the mouth of the Detroit river for Fort Erie, where we arrived the 21st.

Aug. 23. Col. Pickering and Mr. Randolph having commenced their journey for Philadelphia by the way of the Mohawk river, Albany, and New York, I left Fort Erie and went to Queenstown, where we remained at Mr. Spencer's to the 28th. We then went down to Navy Hall, and there waited for the return of Capt. Bunbury of the 5th Regiment, who set off on the 24th to see the Governor and to receive his commands for me, if he had any. But being informed that he had not arrived at York, where the Governor was, on the 28th, and the wind being fair, we left Niagara the 30th of August, at four o'clock in the morning. We made that day the greatest part of our passage to Kingston, formerly called Frontenac, where we arrived on the 31st day, about ten in the morning.

(Printed in the "Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society. Vol. V. of the Third Series, Boston, 1836, pp. 109-176.)

FROM ALEXANDER McKEE TO J. G. SIMCOE:

FOOT OF THE RAPIDS, 22d. August, 1793.

Sir,

Our expectations of seeing a Peace accomplished between the United States and the Indian Americans are disappointed and the Commissioners departed immediately on receiving the speech of the Confederacy (marked C.) which states that a meeting would be altogether unnecessary, unless they agreed to continue the Ohio as the boundary line between the parties.

I have now the honor to enclose Copies of the various speeches, &c. which have passed from the one to the other, since I last wrote to your Excellency.

The Six Nations from below dissented from the other nations on the subject of the Boundary, and wanted the Confederacy to give up the lands to the United States on the East side of the east branch of the Muskingum, as far to Northward as the Ponds near the carrying place to Gayahaga, and from thence in an easterly direction to Venango, as had been formerly offered. But the other nations would not consent to it. All my endeavours were directed to accomplish a union on that point; and I did not expect it would be difficult, as they had heretofore agreed to make peace on these Terms.

But whether from a jealousy of the Six Nations, who are supposed by the others to be attached to the United States, or from a conviction that it would be wrong to make such an offer before the Commissioners agreed to the Ohio generally as the boundary, I did not know; they however persisted in demanding that River as the Boundary without any Limitation. The Council would have been unanimous, had they been so fortunate as not to have differed on this single Article; tho' I doubt whether it would have made any Alteration in the Resolution the Commissioners took to depart, as soon as they were informed that the Indians would not meet them until the Boundary should be ascertained.

Mr. Talbot, who will have the honor of delivering this, is able to inform your Excellency of every particular which has passed especially of the attempts which

were made by the Six Nations to bring the Commissioners to a Council Fire on this River, even before the Confederacy deliberated on an answer to the speech (marked B.) and their attempts also to divide the nations by holding private councils with some of the Lake Indians; and their subsequent behaviour in withdrawing themselves to a Camp about a dozen miles below, where they said they proposed to meet the Commissioners.

The numerous Emissaries which have been sent to this place, with a view (as the Indians suppose) to divide the Nations, was an additional inducement to the Confederacy to resolve that they would not meet the Commissioners until the Boundary, which had been agreed to last Fall at a General Council (Vizt. the Ohio), should be first assented to by them.

The acknowledgement which the United States have at length made, that the Indian Nations possess the Property or Right of the Soil of all Indian Lands has convinced the Nations of the falsities, long propagated, that Great Britain had given away their Country at the Treaty of Peace, and left them in a much worse condition than they were before the War.

Those Nations who have not already sold their possessions will now enjoy without dispute all the lands belonging to them respectively; and these lands will form an extensive Barrier between the British & American Territory.

However conscious I may be of having used no improper influence in the Councils of the Confederacy, so as to prevent the attainment of peace, which I again assure your Excellency, would have afforded me a most sensible gratification; I nevertheless expect from the malevolent, disappointed & all ill disposed, to be blamed for the Opinions which the Indians have adopted for their Resolution which put an end to the Negociation I shall not, however, lament on account of their Animadversions while I continue to be honored with your Excellency's Approbation of my conduct.

With the greatest respect, I have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's most obedient and faithful servant.

A. McKEE.

J. G. S.

ENDORSED;—A. McKee Esq.—to his Excellency Lt. Govr. Simcoe, Foot of the Rapids, 22nd. of August 1793.

SPEECH OF THE CHIEFS OF THE WESTERN NATIONS IN BEHALF OF THE INDIAN AMERICAN CONFEDERACY.

To His Excellency Governor Simcoe.

Spoken by Captain Johnny, a Shawanese.

Father,

I now hold in my hand the Belt which accompanied your Speech in answer to what was sent you from the Glaize last fall.

Father,

In that Speech you told us, that it would always give you pleasure to afford us all the assistance in your power, in promoting peace on just and equitable terms. You also promised us, Father, to send us such writings as would assert our just claims; and provisions for our support, during the Councils to be held, for effecting a peace upon a just & solid foundation.

Father,

Your promises to us have been faithfully complied with, and we thank you from our hearts for your great goodness to us.

Father,

Always considering that your Heart is placed in the centre of the Indian Confederacy, we must expect that our great dependance is still on you.

Father,

The business here is now over and no blame can rest on us, that the Peace of the Country is not restored. You have been informed that the terms on which we proposed to meet Commissioners from the United States were the restoration of our Country & the Ohio for the boundary. We were always in hopes that the Commissioners had come to meet us with a determination to make peace and to be reasonable with us, in which case that desirable end would have been accomplished. But they insisted on keeping possession of almost our whole Country, and offered us money which is useless to us, in payment. We have proposed peace to them three times, & have at last been told, they would not consent to our proposal, so that you must be sensible, Father, the fault is not ours as we required nothing of them but our just right & peace with the United States.

Father,

We expect now to be forced again to defend ourselves & our country. And we look up to the Great God who is a Witness to all that passes here, for his pity & his help. We need not we hope, again repeat the great reliance we have on you for your advice & assistance; and altho' many have united themselves with us at this Council fire, yet we can depend on nothing, so certainly as your protection & friendship; of this, Father you may be well assured that at no former period have we stood in so much need of both.

Wyandots.	(Totem.)
Delawares.	(Totem.)
Shawanese.	(Totem.)
Miamis.	(Totem.)
Ottawas.	(Totem.)
Mingoes.	(Totem.)
Cherokees.	(Totem.)
Munsies.	(Totem.)

With a Belt of White Wampum.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO JOHN KING.

YORK (LATE TORONTO) UPPER CANADA,
August 22d, 1793.

Sir,

I have this day duly received your letter of the 20th of February with its enclosure of printed Copies of His Majesty's Message to both houses of Parliament on the 11th of that Month, and at the same time I am to acknowledge your letter of the 3d of April containing the vote of the House of Commons for the sum of six thousand seven hundred Pounds for defraying the civil establishment of the Province of Upper Canada, from the 31st of Decr. 1792 to the 31st of December, 1793, with a Copy of the Estimate upon which that vote was founded.

I am surprized in a Conversation I have had with Mr. Justice Powell to find

that there are any difficulties on the Part of Government of settling the rate of Fees to be granted by those who become Patentees of land in this Province.

Upon the erection of New Brunswick the Government adopted the Fees of Nova Scotia and I believe the arrangement was sanctioned by Government.

I have desired that Governor Wentworth would have the goodness to transmit the same fee table to Mr. Dundas that I may be authorized by his direction to fix upon the same fees, unless in his Opinion there should be any difference of circumstances which render it inapplicable to the Province of Upper Canada.

The Royal Word is pledged that Loyalists of a defined description are to have their lands without any paying of Fees; the Officers of Government who *bona fide* find the materials for such title deeds appear to me to be entitled to the price of their parchment or paper but no other Person. All other Patentees of Land are certainly under the necessity of paying a certain fee—Lord Dorchester and General Haldimand publicly refused theirs—I am of a very different Opinion—I must beg therefore, Sir, that this matter may be submitted to Mr. Dundas's immediate decision as it is impossible for me to ascertain to the Emigrant what his Expenses will be; and Mr. Hamilton a member of the Legislative Council, has not scrupled to say, what He, in his folly, may attempt to perform, that He could carry a bill through both Houses to give titles to present possessors of land.

I have the honor to be with great respect,
Sir, Your most obt. & most humble St.

J. G. SIMCOE.

To John King, Esqr.

Under Secretary of State.

Endorsed:—York (late Toronto) Upper Canada, 22d August, 1793. R. 12 Decr.

FROM JOSEPH CHEW TO ALEXANDER McKEE.

My Dear Sir,

On the 10th of July, I received your letter of the 25th of June, and immediately sent an extract of it to Head Quarters, and enclosed you have Mr. Coffin's answer respecting the purchase of the lands mentioned in your letter of the 9th of April, which had been regularly forwarded to him, but no answer sent to me before this I now send you.

My son William was at Niagara when Capt. Brant and the Deputation from the nations assembled at Miami arrived there, and was present when they delivered their messages, or speeches to the Commissioners from the States, and by means of Capt. Brant got the purport of them, and a copy of the Commissioners' answer, had not this been the case no account of this transaction would have been Rec'd. at the Superintendent General's Office. I cannot account for Colonel Butler's omissions. I am perfectly sure the Superintendnt. General from what he writes to me, expected every information respecting Indian matters will be transmitted to his office as early as possible, and will on his return be displeased if it is not so, I have given him all the matters you have communicated to me, and let him know how very attentive you have been. I still hope to see him this Fall, if not it will be early in the Spring.

The late arrival of the ships and contrary winds, has been a vexatious business to the merchants & Captains. The Indian goods are not all landed. I hope they

may be in a few days, and as soon as they are got to La Chine, and surveyed, for which I have a warrant, such deficiency in your requisition, as can be made up from this supply, shall be forwarded to you, when I shall give you every intelligence in my power.

I earnestly wish the American Commissioners may make such offers of a Boundary Line, that may be just and equitable, and such an one as may be agreeable to the indians. I confess I have no doubts, by a letter published in a Philadelphia paper from an officer at Ft. St. Clair, dated the latter of April, it appears they were supplying their Posts & very alert, which makes me believe the indians had good reasons to suspect them of taking advantage of the intended treaty to strengthen those Posts, and I think it will be the case. There is also a publication in a Philadelphia paper of the 20th of June last, for supplying rations for the year 1794, at all the Posts and passes in the Indian Country, in which the Field of Action November 1791, the Miami Village, the Rapids, and where the Miami falls into Lake Erie, are mentioned, this does not look as if they expected to relinquish any part of that Country.

We are impatient for an arrival from London, what European news we have by way of New York, is vague, and contradictory from every thing we hear from the States, and from their publications, I really apprehend their unlimited, & great partiality, to the French, will make them be considered as a party in the dispute, and not as a Neutral Nation. In a little time, we shall be able to form a better judgment of their proceedings, be assured that I am

My Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully.

JOSEPH CHEW.

Col. Alex McKee.

ENDORSED;—(Without date) Joseph Chew Esq. Rec'd. 13th Sept. 1793, answered 20th Oct.

FROM JAMES MONROE TO JOHN BRACKENRIDGE.

ALBEMARLE, Augt. 23, 1793.

(Extract.)

The monarchy party among [us?] has seized a new ground whereon to advance their fortunes. The French minister has been guilty, in the vehemence of his zeal, of some indiscretions, slighting the President of the U. States, and instead of healing the breach, this party have brought it to the publick view & are labouring to turn the popularity of this respectable citizen, against the French revolution, thinking to separate us from France & pave the way for an unnatural connection with Great Britain.

Jay & King have certified the indiscretion charged on the minister & handed it to the publick printers. I have only time to suggest the idea, to enable you to understand what you may see in violation to this object & to put the friends of republican government on their guard.

(Printed in the "Writings of James Monroe," edited by S. L. Hamilton, Vol. I. pp. 272-3.)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

No 16.

YORK (LATE TORONTO) UPPER CANADA,
Augt. 23d, 1793.

Sir,

I do myself the honor of acknowledging the receipt of your dispatch of the second of May, 1793, at this place.

On the 22d of this month I received your dispatch of the 2d of April informing me of the successes of Europe against the aggression of the French Nation; this joyful news had reached this Province thro' the United States and could not fail of giving the greatest pleasure to all His Majesty's loyal subjects.

I am happy, Sir, that you will take into your early consideration such measures as may appear to you to be necessary for the welfare of this Province, and which the general circumstances of the times shall render practicable and expedient.

The great saving which will result to the State from a certain number of military Artificers being employed in this infant Colony will, I trust, fully appear upon the slightest investigation.

The Salt Springs, I hope, will be sufficiently productive to enable this Country to cure its own provisions.

I hope Lord Dorchester will think it proper to place the naval arrangements under my controul.

The Acting Surveyor General is directed to make out such Plans as may evince how closely as possible, the Government of the Province have complied with his Majesty's instructions; they will be transmitted by the first opportunity.

I have informed Captain Shaw of his Majesty's having been graciously pleased to approve of his Appointment to the Seat at the Executive Council Board, vacant by the resignation of Mr. Robertson.

The necessity of a resident Quorum to perform the duties which the Land granting business alone renders Constantly necessary and very burthensome, suggested to me the Idea, that as it is likely a Solicitor General of adequate Character may not easily be found to fill that Office for some years, that it may for the present be suppressed, and the Salary being the same, the Council might be increased on whom the business is at present very oppressive.

Mr. Hammond's dispatches, Sir, will doubtless have informed you of the general result of Indian Events, so far as they relate to the United States, and that they had declined the request of the Indian Confederacy that the King's Officers might mediate at the treaty presumed to be held at Sandusky.

I have felt it my duty to Co-operate as far as possible with the views of Mr. Hammond and have for this purpose constantly had an intercourse with that Gentleman—I am sorry to understand that there is not likely to be any accomodation between the Contending Parties; and in compliance with your directions I shall lose no time in stating to Mr. Hammond such evil consequences as may flow from the Ideas the Indians may entertain of the duplicity or inactivity of this Government.

It will give me sincere pleasure should a Protestant Bishop of the Church of England be established in Upper Canada.

I beg leave to enclose the Addresses of both Houses of the Legislature of this Country to his Majesty expressing their Loyalty and Abhorrence of those fatal principles which have forced Him into a War with the People who exercise Authority in France: I also transmit my Speech at the end of the Session.

The Chief Justice and Attorney General being obliged to go upon the Circuit at the Closure of the Sessions, I have not yet received a Copy of the Acts of the Legislature sufficiently authenticated to be transmitted by this Opportunity.

I shall take the earliest method of sending them, Sir, for your inspection, together with such remarks on the temper of the Houses as may be necessary and which having the last year been principally drawn up by the Chief Justice, I wish to avail myself of his more immediate acquaintance with the Gentlemen of the Legislature to form the Judgment proper to be laid before you on this subject.

I shall inform Mr. Holland of your inclination to acquiesce in his proposal of exploring the North West parts of America.

The Survey of the Communication between Lakes Ontario and Sinclair by the river Thames is completed—and I am just informed that the Surveyor whom I have employed on Lake Erie has discovered an admirable Harbour near the very place that I wished at Long Point opposite to Presqu'Isle. I purpose on the 1st of September to cross from this place to Lake Huron, and hope by October to transmit to you such plans as may enable you to form a judgment on the propriety of altering the present military arrangements in this Colony, which having been formed on different principles and those in a great degree temporary ones, do not appear to me to be calculated for the present Government, Strength, or growing Importance of this Colony.

I have determined to Hut the Queen's Rangers and probably to remain with them this winter at this place; It possesses many eminent advantages, which I shall do myself the honor of expatiating on by the first opportunity, and of transmitting such Plans as appear necessary to me for permanent Barracks and Fortifications to be erected adapted to present circumstances but which may be increased, if it shall become necessary, and at a less expence be rendered more easily impregnable than any place I have seen in North America—Niagara and Detroit being each of them absolutely untenable against five thousand Men even from Assault, tho' the whole Force in Upper Canada could be concentrated for their defence.

Lieutenant Crawford, the Bearer of this dispatch, being on his return to Europe through New York, I have availed myself of the opportunity and desired that he would be the Bearer of my Dispatches to Mr. Hammond on the subject of Indian Affairs in compliance with your intimation.

I have the honor to be with great respect, Sir,
Your most Obedient and most humble Servant.

J. G. SIMCOE.

The Rt. Honble Henry Dundas
One of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State.

&c., &c., &c.

Endorsed:—York, Upper Canada. 23d Augt. 1793. Lt. Govr Simcoe. R. 21st Decr. No. 16. (Two Inclosures).

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO GEORGE HAMMOND.

YORK (LATE TORONTO) UPPER CANADA,
August 24th, 1793.

Sir,

Having lately done myself the honor of stating to Your Excellency my serious apprehensions, that from the Indisposition of the parties, the present unhappy War between the American Indians and the United States would not be terminated

by amicable treaty at the present meeting, held for that purpose at Sandusky—I can only lament that my apprehensions by late circumstances have been corroborated, and that the Deputation of the Indian Nations which met the Commissioners at Niagara have been arraigned by their Constituents as not having fully and explicitly demanded of the Commissioners of the United States whether they were impowered to establish the Ohio as the Frontier line, or not? Your Excellency will see by the enclosed Papers, that the Indian Meeting have sent another Deputation to the Commissioners, now at the mouth of the Detroit River, to demand from them an explanation on this Point.

It is unnecessary for me to point out to Your Excellency, who are so well acquainted with the dispassionate and dignified Conduct that has Originated from the Wisdom of His Majesty's Councils towards the United States ever since the Peace of 1783, that the same tenor has been uniformly preserved by his Majesty's Government in this Country, and that in the midst of difficulties, they have hitherto been able to maintain inviolably a neutrality between the native Indians and the American States—but, Sir, It appears to me to be proper to state to you a detail of those difficulties, which seem to encrease upon this Government, and which may ultimately force it into the most serious and alarming situation. I scarcely think it necessary to represent to Your Excellency, that of the three Branches into which the fur trade of this Province is divided, The *Detroit*, *Michillimackinac*, and *North West* That the former is totally ruined by the subsisting hostilities, and that in their progress the Indians of Michillimackinac having acceded to the Confederacy, that trade also is sensibly on the decline, because, however important it may be to the commercial welfare of this Province that the Indian Nations should carry on their Hunts, and make their returns in peace and quietness, the continuation of hostilities threaten much more unfavourable occurrences than the loss or suspension of these branches of trade, and the Jealousy of the Indians may ripen into an open attack on the Inhabitants under my Government.

It may be necessary to recapitulate to Your Excellency such circumstances as have happened since the Peace of 1783 that evince the temper and disposition with which the Indian Nations received that event, and the construction which they themselves placed upon its articles, together with such inflammatory and unjustifiable attempts as have been made by the Servants of the United States to confirm their jealousy of the Conduct of the British Nation into resentment for its supposed perfidy, and contempt of its imbecility.

The instant that General Haldimand received the information of the Peace, he stated to his Majesty's Ministers his fears that the Indians would misapprehend it, and consider themselves as abandoned.

In May, 1783, General McLean, who then commanded at Niagara, held a Conference with the Indians to Offer his good Offices, and to assure them of the King's regard and friendship. The Indians expressly told him that they were free people, Allies not Subjects to the King of England, that He had no right to grant their lands, nor would they submit to it: in particular they insisted that the King had no right to give away Forts built in the Heart of their Country without Consulting them.

No admission of Principles so just in themselves, and which are expressly provided for in the treaty of Peace, which intimates only that Great Britain should withdraw her garrisons from the Posts could erase that jealousy which the Public offers of the Baron Steuben to purchase the Military Stores and Provisions of the Posts and the votes of some of the States and ultimately of Congress, to levy Troops for the purpose of taking Possession of them, had raised to its utmost

Pitch—a general Confederacy was set on foot by the Six Nations and Western Indians for the purpose of their own security, and *Brant* did not hesitate to avow that the intent was to attack either the British or the Subjects of the United States whichever should infringe upon their Rights.

This Confederacy of the Indian Nations which had been so strongly inculcated by Sir William Johnson after the Indian War that succeeded to the Peace of 1763, as the true means of embracing all the claims of the several Nations whether as separate or joint Proprietors of the Indian Country, and of laying thereby a solid foundation for just and permanent peace has acted upon similar principles and uniformly denied the validity of any treaties that should dispose of their Lands without the Consent of the General Council.

The United States having failed in performing the Articles of the Treaty of Peace, the Western Posts have not been surrendered to them; This Circumstance has operated so far favorably for the Interests of the King's Subjects, that they have been left unmolested in the possession of their farms and settlements, which if the Posts had been evacuated it is most probable that the Indian Nations would not have allowed them to have established or extended and the British North West trade, it should seem, must have failed as it could not have supported the expence of drawing Provisions from the existing British Settlements.

The Government of the United States upon the Peace, seem to have thrown off all appearance of moderation and justice in respect to the Indian Nations, the division of the Country into Provinces was among their first public Acts, The extirpation of the Indians was their Philosophical language: and the sale of their lands was held forth as the avowed foundation of their National Wealth.—Among the Indian Nations there were several Natives, and more of adopted White Men, who could fully deduce the consequences resulting from these positions, and forcibly explain them at their Councils; but there seems to have been but little necessity for both Mediums; or the pretended influence of Great Britain; a general War has been the consequence of the claims of the Congress, and of the self defence of the Indian Confederacy.

The Language of the *Government* of the United States to the Nations, as held by Governor St. Clair at Fort Harmar in January, 1789, was "That after a long struggle between the United States and Great Britain in which the Indians joined the latter the United States got the better and that Great Britain asked for Peace, and gave up the Indian lands as part of the price."

This language was ably refuted by the Indians. Your Excellency is in possession of the Arguments of both sides.

The Successes of the Indians against Generals Harmar and Sinclair seemed to prepare a way for Peace, and Joseph Brant in hopes of finding means to accomplish upon just terms what He has always considered as a most desirable end, and avowed as his Opinion, went to Philadelphia in 1792 for this very purpose.

I enclose to you his letter to Colonel McKee on the Subject, in which it appears that He continues under that impression which the Peace of 1783 had made on the minds of the Indians "that the Conduct of Great Britain in respect to them had been unjustifiable."

The recent victory over Sinclair has occasioned a considerable alteration in the language of the United States: the Ground of Conquest as held forth by Govr. Sinclair, and that of any right of his Majesty having ceded the Indian Territory is totally abandoned—but the mutual Treaties under the auspices of Mr. Sinclair are referred to as the just foundations of the present claims of the United States.

The Indian Nations have always looked up to the King for Protection, they

have uniformly affirmed that the language of the United States to them has been "that the King has ceded the Country," they have from time to time brought in pictures and emblems at once scurrilous and disrespectful, representing the superiority which the United States has obtained over the King; and tho' in the answer of Lord Dorchester to the Indians, it may have been prudently said "these must have originated from ill informed Individuals," yet as the Indians are fully acquainted from whom they have received such presents, they cannot be persuaded to attribute it to others than the Governmental Officers of the United States;—and from hence they deduce fresh sources of Jealousy against Great Britain in regard to the reality of her Cession of their Country, and are the more inclined to believe the exaggerated accounts of her Imbecillity.

Your Excellency is Master of the strong and expressive language in which they have called upon me to attend their Treaty, and you are fully acquainted with every step that has been taken to give them that assistance, to which they have a just claim, and which we have a right to bestow, without violating that strict neutrality, which is due to our present situation with the United States, and involving the dignity of his Majesty's Government.

But I am sorry to observe that although such conduct may have been most proper in its objects, and that the means to accomplish it have been such as without doubt, must have done away from the minds of the people of the United States any impression whatsoever of an unfavorable disposition in this Government to the expected Peace, I am sorry to observe that neither personal explanation or an intermediate one through their Agents, has been able to satisfy the minds of the Indian Nations that such Conduct has been sufficiently friendly and attentive to their Interests, and they have said "that although the United States have not agreed that the Representative of the King their Father should attend the Treaty, they do not see why He should refuse to be present to assist The King's faithful Allies with his advice at their General Council."

These serious Inconveniences in the Commercial View of this Unfortunate War, (the loss or material Injury of the Detroit and Michillimackinac branches of Commerce), and the suspicions which have been uniformly entertained by the Indian Nations of the neglect of the King's Government, tho' every exertion has been made use of to allay it, (and circumstances have hitherto proved favourable to such an endeavour), tend to one point, our interest in an immediate Pacification, as they prove the great evils and distress which his Majesty's Province at present suffers by the continuation of Hostilities; but it is easily demonstrated that their prolongation may be eventually productive of such open enmity from the Indians as involve it in difficulties beyond the power of remedy or calculation.—In case that Victory shall declare for the Indian Confederacy, & that it shall be confirmed in that strength which its present extension throughout the Continent seems to promise, whatever offence may have been taken against the strict neutrality of Great Britain as we term it, or, as it is asserted by the Indians, our abandoning our Indian Allies at the treaty of Peace, and leaving them to struggle by themselves, in a contest brought upon them as Governor Sinclair's speech declares by their attachment to Great Britain, and terminated by her Cession of their Lands as part of the price of Peace, such an Offence will be heightened and improved in the minds of the Indian Nations by the consciousness of recent superiority, and every effort to conciliate their alienated minds will bear with it the appearance of Pusillanimity, which invites attack; the usual presents will be received without kindness, and new and trivial demands will be made upon every occasion, till the first refusal

of any extravagant request, will be interpreted as injury, will be avenged by predatory excursions, that must terminate in open War.

On the other side, should Fortune side with the Armies of the United States, the Indian Tribes have been advised and probably have determined to fly to the British Fortresses for Protection, or passing over to the British Territory within its Treaty line, will from thence continue a perpetual Warfare, that in either case sooner or later must involve this Government with the United States.

But should it be thought politick or prudent in case of this, the uttermost distress of the Indian Nations, to refuse them shelter in his Majesty's dominions, or the Protection of his Fortresses, what will be the consequences? The Nation, The Tribe, I had almost said the Individuals, that could not withstand the powerful and well arranged Army of the United States, can in an instant destroy the settlements and massacre the unfortunate Inhabitants of Upper Canada; and the untutored savage in the first impulse of his resentment, and the last deliberation of his Council would reconcile such an attempt to his general mode of reasoning, and to which opportunity and necessity would powerfully urge him, without it being prompted by the Indian or White Emissaries of the United States, who in any case, are a ready and formidable Engine, fully prepared to turn the views of the Indians to their own purposes, and gradually to alienate their minds from the King their Father and to dispose them to Hostility against his Subjects.

The contemplation of the papers herewith transmitted, in which neither Captain Brant nor Col. McKee seem to have hopes of an amicable conclusion of the present Treaty have naturally disposed my mind to reflect on the baneful consequences should Hostilities recommence on the Frontiers of his Majesty's Dominions; there are so many objects and Interests of great moment that I could detail to Your Excellency, which are involved in such a Calamity, but which are also inferior in magnitude to what is to be apprehended from an Indian War on the one hand; and from giving any just cause of Offence on the other to the United States, that I desist from dwelling upon them.

I cannot however conclude without saying, that I should have been most happy had the Government of the United States coincided with the Indian request, and that you could have obtained his Majesty's gracious permission to have been the Mediator in his name at the present treaty.

The Weight and Authority of Your Excellency would have pointed out to the Indian, that Justice which He may not be disposed to recognize when introduced by the Representative of his Enemies; and at the same time the purity of our National Character in Your Excellency's hands would have been a pledge to the United States of our zealous anxiety to establish a Peace upon permanent principles of Equity. It must also at this Juncture, I am persuaded, have been a personal gratification to Your Excellency, to have rendered such service as might have been in your power to the Government of the United States, whose recent manly and impartial Conduct cannot but have afforded you a considerable degree of satisfaction.

I have the honor to be with great Respect, Sir,
Your Excellency's, &c.

J. GRAVES SIMCOE.

His Excellency George Hammond, &c.

Endorsed:—In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 18 of the 20th Sept. 1793.

FROM D. HOGAN TO JOHN SMITH.

EAST LANDING, 25th Augt. 1793.

Sir.

The Chiefs of the Tuscarora Nation have sent an Express to me desiring I would make their wishes known to the Commandant of Niagara, which is that he would not permit any Indians within side of the Garrison for a few days, but that they may be permitted in the bottom, their Reason for this is that they have reason to believe that some of them are intent on sending to the Americans as full an account of the Strength of the Garrison & its Situation as lies in their power, they believe that some are bribed for that purpose.

D. HOGAN,
Serjt, 5th Foot.

The Commandant at Niagara.

A Copy. D. W. Smith, A.D.Q.M. General.

FROM JOHN BUTLER TO JOHN SMITH.

Colonel Butler's best Respects wait on Mr. David Smith, requests of him to acquaint Major Smith that from the Report he made to Major Smith a few days ago, thinks it would be proper to comply with the Request of the Tuscarora Chiefs.

Colonel Butler would be glad if Major Smith would order Barnabas Cain or Son to go to the Villages & to ask two or three of the Chiefs to come down as soon as possible.

Sunday afternoon.

A Copy,
D. W. SMITH,
A.D.Q.M.General.

FROM JOHN SMITH TO J. G. SIMCOE.

NIAGARA, 25th August, 1793.

Sir.

I have the honor to transmit to your Excellency the Copy of an Information I received from Serjeant Hogan at the Landing, which I directed to be communicated to Colonel Butler & enclose his observations in answer thereof.—The Report which the Colonel alludes to have made me was that the people of the States were making Roads through the woods towards their Settlements & Lakes.—I have directed Barnabas Cain, the Blacksmith, to go to the Tuscarora Village, in order to bring the Chiefs before Colonel Butler & I have given private & confidential Instructions to the Captains who may be on Duty to observe on the Circumstances mentioned in the Information altho' I cannot suppose this Garrison has anything to fear from the Results of Any Report made of its Situation by Indians.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient humble Servant,

JOHN SMITH, Major, 5th Regt.

His Excellency, Lt. Governor Simcoe. &c. &c. &c.

GENERAL ORDER

YORK, UPPER CANADA, 26th August, 1793.

His Excellency the Lieut. Governor having received information of the success of His Majesty's arms under His Royal Highness the Duke of York, by which Holland has been saved from the invasion of the French armies, and it appearing that the combined forces have been successful in dislodging their enemies from an entrenched camp supposed to be impregnable, from which the most important consequences may be expected, and in which arduous attempt the Duke of York and His Majesty's troops supported the national glory; it is His Excellency's orders that on the raising of the Union Flag, at twelve o'clock to-morrow morning a Royal Salute of twenty-one guns be fired, to be answered by the shipping in the Harbour, in respect to His Royal Highness and in commemoration of the naming of this Harbour from his English title, York.

E. B. LITTLEHALES,
Major of Brigade.

FROM HENRY DUNDAS TO J. G. SIMCOE.

(No. 1).

WHITEHALL 31st Augt. 1793.

Lieut Governor Simcoe.

Sir,

I have received and laid before The King your Dispatches of the 21st of April, 27th of May, and 17th of June last.

The two former not requiring any particular answer, I have only to observe in respect of the last, that I highly approve of your vigilance, and of your attention to every movement of the American States.—It is necessary that you should be upon your guard and it is equally so, that nothing should arise within either of the Canadas, of which any advantage can be taken by such of the Americans as may wish, through the medium of popular prejudices, to influence the public Opinion against this Country, It is so ruinous to the interests of the American States to be engaged in war with this Country, that I cannot persuade myself it is at all in their Contemplation, and no proposition can be more clear than that nothing should be done by Great Britain or any of its dependencies either to provoke or to justify Hostilities on their part. I witness with great satisfaction the zealous and loyal attachment of the Legislature of Upper Canada to His Majesty's person, and to the constitution, and also its attention to so important an object as the Militia; It is a measure of internal Preparation and Defence, which at all events, must be productive of the most beneficial consequences, and the more so, as I am confident that you will on your part second the exertions of the Province, by rendering its Militia an efficient and respectable Force.

I am, &c.

HENRY DUNDAS.

Endorsed:—Drat to Lt. Govr Simcoe. August 1793. (No. 1.)

FROM JOSEPH BRANT TO J. G. SIMCOE.

NIAGARA, 2d September, 1793.

Sir,

I arrived here last evening from Detroit and am extremely sorry that our business to the Westward did not terminate in a peace as was by many of us wished for, as to the consequences I am rather apprehensive, from the great divisions amongst us, unanimity by no means prevailing, without which the Indians it cannot be expected will do much, in my Opinion the Advice of some Whites was too much attended to, but perhaps it may be for the best. I am still in hopes that an honorable peace may be obtained, and the boundary fixed to the Satisfaction of the Indians in General—the Western Nations being for the line as fixed by Sir William Johnson, the Six Nations and Lake Indians having before mentioned the Muskingum.—

A Treaty is to be held at Buffaloe Creek as soon as the Indians all arrive, was it possible I should have been extremely happy in having consulted with Your Excellency on the present situation of our Affairs, but time I am afraid will not admit of it. I shall not trouble you with any detail of our proceedings as Mr. Sheehan, I dare say, will make his report to you, as soon as He arrives. The result of the Treaty to be held shall be made known to Your Excellency as soon as it is over.

I have the honor to be,
Your Excellency's &c.
JOS. BRANT.

His Excellency Govr. Simcoe.

Endorsed:—In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 18 of the 20th Sept., 1793.

(4)

FROM ROBERT PILKINGTON TO J. G. SIMCOE.

NIAGARA, 6th Sept. 1793.

Sir,

Pursuing the Idea of occupying Point Gibraltar with a Cavelier or Stone Redoubt, for commanding the entrance into the Harbour of York, serving also in a more general view of a System for the Defence of the Place, and for the *immediate Purposes* of Government for depositing Naval and Military Stores in the greatest Security with the smallest Garrison, I beg to offer a square Blockhouse fifty-eight feet in the clear—the lower part consisting of a Powder Magazine and Store Rooms and the upper Part to serve as Barracks—The lower story, and a part of the Upper, forming the Breast Work of a Battery en Barbet, to be of Masonry, the remaining Part of the second story of Log work grooved into uprights, removable in case of any Emergence.

The whole of the lower part to be made Bomb Proof, by Timbers supported by Pillars and the Party Walls, and for the greater security of the Powder, the Magazine and the Passages leading to it to be arched with Brick.

As the proposed position of the Work is not subject to any fire on the North Side, but from the Harbour, it will be advisable to have the Entrance on that Side, and as the lower part of the building may serve for Barracks in case of any attack

it may be expedient also to have the same side constructed so as to admit of the requisite Light and Air on such an occasion. The west side wholly commands the entrance of the Harbour and the south a narrow Beach leading to the extreme Point of the Land forming the Harbour. On the east side there is an advantageous Position against the proposed work, which although detached by unfordable Waters it may be necessary to occupy or remove.

The probable expence of the Blockhouse for Workmanship only, as a considerable share of attention will be requisite to the Foundations, I estimate at seven Hundred and eighty-five Pounds Sterling; considering the labouring Part to be performed chiefly by the Military: of the Expence of the Materials, I cannot at present form any precise Idea, but it may be concluded from the facility with which Stone, Lime and Timber may be procured, they will be obtainable at a very reasonable rate.

I have the Honor to be, Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most obedient and
Very humble Servant.
ROBT. PILKINGTON.

To
His Excellency Colo. Simcoe.

*Endorsed: In Lt Govr. Simcoe's No 18.
of the 20th Sepr. 1793.*

(5)

FROM THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES, PHILADELPHIA,
7 SEPTEMBER, 1793.

An express arrived Tuesday at the War Office from the Commissioners for treating with the Indians, North of the Ohio.

We learn that they were not able even to effect a meeting with the body of the hostile Indians, who were assembled at the Rapids of the Miami River which runs into Lake Erie.

The Indians by deputation insisted upon the Ohio as the boundary between them and the United States. But as so extensive a concession was inadmissible and no relaxation of this demand being indicated, the Commissioners, who had been waiting at the mouth of the Detroit River from the 21st of July, left that place on the 17th of August and arrived at Fort Erie on the 23rd of the same month.

The tribes determined for war are the Wyandots, Delawares, Shawanese, and Miamis, although it is understood that a considerable portion even of those were for peace.

It is also understood that the Six Nations, including Capt. Brant and his Mohawks, strongly urged the hostile Indians to make peace.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO GEORGE HAMMOND.

YORK (LATE TORONTO) Sept. 8th, 1793.

Sir,

As I have a favorable opportunity by Mr. Brewerton, an half-pay officer in the King's service, to communicate with Your Excellency, I am to transmit for your information the Copies of various Papers which I have received from Colonel McKee and his information that all Negotiation between the American Indians & the United States has proved unavailing, and that our best endeavours to promote the desirable object of Peace have been to no effect.

It will appear from Colonel McKee's letter that he endeavoured to unite the Indians, and to persuade them to content themselves with the boundaries which they had formerly demanded; but to no effect, as the Western Indians *insisted* upon the requisition, as made in the speech which I transmitted to your Excellency the last year, that the Ohio should be the Boundary.

Colonel McKee complains and as I apprehend with great reason of the Six Nations; I enclose to Your Excellency a letter from Captain Brant, by which it appears that those Tribes are at this moment in Council, and He says he has "still hopes that an honorable Peace may be effected." Captain Brant always was of opinion that the lesser boundary of the Ohio & Muskingum should be adopted but that the greater one as settled by Sir William Johnson should be the preliminary stipulation. On my asking him "how such information should be conveyed to the Commissioners," he told me "He did not know." It is scarcely to be hoped that the Western Indians, who are disposed to consider this Chief as a Traitor, will comply with any Councils held under his auspices. His Character is very problematical, his conduct has been very unsatisfactory to Colonel McKee—added to these difficulties on the part of the Indian Nations, the Commissioners told me the Muskingum Boundary would never be consented to.

The horrors of an Indian War need no explanation or comment, & I am truly distressed that they are so likely to be continued, should the Indians prove successful in the next rencounter, it is to be hoped that the Government of the United States may not for a shadow sacrifice the substance but be anxious for the King's mediation, which can alone, I am *persuaded*, unite the Indian Nations and effect that termination of hostilities, which if they be suffered to continue must eventually involve this Colony in the most serious Calamities.

Colonel McKee did not deliver the Speech to the Indian Nations which I left to his discretion, as the Treaty was not concluded; but I am happy I wrote it, as Your Excellency will perceive in it a general coincidence with the sentiments of the Commissioners of the United States, and in particular a clear statement that by the Treaty with the United States His Majesty precluded his Subjects from colonizing beyond the boundary stipulated, altho' with the consent of the Indian Nations & this I thought proper to explain, as I understand it has been thrown out in popular publications that the Indian War was fomented by the British that they might avail themselves of the event, and colonize towards the Ohio.

I enclose for Your Excellency's perusal the Copy of a Report of the Officer commanding at Oswego, by which you will see that the People in that Country are ripening into a temper which may be productive of the most serious disputes. An armed Party lately passed that Post in the night with contraband goods pre-determined to seize the Preventive Officer, and to imprison him, should he stop their boat. I am building a row Boat to carry a Gun, to endeavour by terror, to prevent such gross insults, and I shall direct the Officer Commanding not to pursue any

Deserters beyond certain Bounds: but these arrangements will be at best, merely palliatives, and the settlements making in the vicinity of the King's post must be productive of such hostilities as the Officer agreeably to his Instructions cannot but consider as force, and *repell by force*, unless some speedy arrangement shall take place, either by the King's Troops being withdrawn from the Posts in consequence of a general Treaty, or that during the suspence of the negociation, the Government of New York shall exert its power to restrain the lawless proceedings of its frontier Subjects.

I cannot but wish that some arrangement on this subject might be made between Your Excellency & the Government of the United States; any trifling complaints if such have arisen on our parts, (but which I have neither heard of or believe), may be easily remedied and guarded against, as the post is purely Military, and as such is the object of national consideration, but by no means ought to become subject to Insults from any Individual which may lead to the most serious consequences.

I had the pleasure of receiving your letter by Colonel Ogden who has proceeded to Quebec.

Lieut. Brewerton (the bearer of this dispatch) is the son of a late Provincial Colonel, to whose family the Council of this Province have granted the customary Lands. The Young man seems well behaved, & means to settle in Upper Canada.

I have the honor to be with great regard

Your Excellency's, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

His Excellency George Hammond, &c.

Endorsed:—In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Dundas No. 2 of the 25 Octr. 1793.

FROM C. T. A. SCHOEDDE TO FRANCIS LE MAISTRE.

FORT ONTARIO, 9th Sept. 1793.

Sir,

By very late advice from New York, I am informed that a Mr. Mezières, for some time Secretary to Genet, is now on his way to Canada, and as it is said with a view of fomenting divisions amongst the Canadians. He travels under a fictitious name, which I have not learned.

I would not presume to trouble Head Quarters but thro' the ordered Channel, but want of opportunity to acquaint His Excellency Lieut. Governor Simcoe, in time, encourages me to take a liberty, which originates in a wish for the publick service.

I have the honor to be, &c.

C. T. A. SCHOEDDE,

Lieut, 60th Rgt. Comdg at Fort Ontario.

Capt. Le Maistre. M.S.

FROM G. LAMOTHE TO JOSEPH CHEW.

MICHILIMACKINAC, the 15th Sept. 1793.

Sir:

I have the honour to Inclose you the Requisition for the year 1794, it would be very necessary that the articles therein mentioned should be advanced early enough in the spring on the communication as to be in this post time enough for the presents made in the spring, as there remains not enough in the store for the numbers of nations which is to come in, and which have been asked by the nabouring Indians of this Post, Especially the Sious, Chipaway & Fox, which is at war—for to make a treaty of peace together. If it was possible to send by the first canoes, Tobacco & Vermillion, Two articles absolutely necessary and which is wanting in the store.

There is no extraordinary news, only the return of the Ottawas & Chipeways, which is arrived from the Counsell held at the Miamies river, the first having lost four men amongst which was Two Chiefs, which causes a great mourning amongst the nation.

On the 24th Sept, I will address you the return of what remains in the store.

I have the Honour to be, Sir,
Your most Humble & Obt. Servt.

G. LAMOTHE.

Capt. Chew—.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

No 17.

YORK (LATE TORONTO) UPPER CANADA,
September 16th, 1793.

Sir,

I do myself the honor of transmitting to you the plan for the arrangement of future Townships in this Province which the Executive Council have directed to be carried into execution as it seems to them to be properly calculated to enforce the Provisions for the reserves of the Church and the Crown agreeably to the late Act of Parliament.

I beg to observe that the exceptions to this General Plan are principally in the Grants of the Townships settled previously to the Establishment of the Government of Upper Canada, and in which only such parts as had not been granted or that may become forfeited, can be secured and reserved for the purposes of the Act.

In order to lessen the Expences of Survey, the Council adopted the Plan No. 2 for a certain range of Townships which had been previously surveyed on the Borders of Lake Ontario, and which plan equally as the general one allots the due reservations.

Another exception it was thought proper to make on the Military communications: as it is intended that they shall be carried on, in as strait a line as possible. It was determined that such a line should divide the several Townships, and for the speedy settlement of the Country, and the future maintenance of the Road that no person should be allowed a Lot thereon, who was not bona fide a settler, and that

the Reserves which would have fallen in this line agreeably to the general plan, should be distributed among the rear concessions. The great importance that it appears to the Council to promote the erection of Towns has also occasioned them to deviate from the general plan to assist the settlement at Toronto, or York. It was thought expedient to reserve the whole of the Broken Fronts for Garrison purposes as well as to prevent the scattering of the Inhabitants in such situations as their Fancy or Interest might induce them, which would ever prevent that compactness in a Town, which it seems proper to establish; two or three of the front concessions are therefore granted in this Township, and the reserves will be made in the back lands, which in reality are far more valuable for agricultural purposes; but reserves to great extent are made near this Harbour, of Timber, which must in time become valuable, as it is proposed to furnish from hence, all the materials that may be wanted for the Service of the Crown in the fortresses on the Lakes, and which at present are purchased from the Merchants at a very exorbitant Price.

The reserves in Lower Canada being made in large Masses has occasioned some Persons to petition that the same system might be followed in this Province, but it did not seem expedient to the Council to make any alteration in the Plan they had maturely adopted.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect, Sir,
Your most Obedient and
most humble Servant.

J. GRAVES SIMCOE.

The Rt. Honble
Henry Dundas, one of His
Majesty's principal Secretaries
of State, &c., &c., &c.

Endorsed: York (late Toronto) Upper Canada. 16 Sept. 1793. Lt. Govr. Simcoe. R. 23d Decr. No. 17. (Two Inclosures)

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO C. T. A. SCHOEDDE.

Confidential

YORK, Sept. 16, 1793.

Sir,

I have laid before His Excy. Lt. Govr. Simcoe your letter of 15 Augt., which is transmitted to the Commander in Chief.

The Lieut. Governor desires me to say that much is trusted to your discretion in your very critical command. It appears to him at this distance rather to be advisable not to pursue any deserters into the settled country. Every demonstration should be made to convince the soldiers that some plan has been agreed upon which will render the escape of any of those who should be so base as to desert impracticable in future. Perhaps an arrangement may be made with some principal people, by which it might be their interest to be serviceable to the Garrison. If so of course you will avail yourself of any measure that may promote the King's service and lessen that odium which the possession of Fort Ontario is likely to excite among the people whom it cuts off from all access to the Lake. The cultivating an intercourse of mutual civility, good understanding and rendering any trivial ser-

vices to the inhabitants in the vicinity of your Post not incompatible with your duty, may also be attended with very happy consequences.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Lieut. Schoedde,
60th Regt., Commanding Fort Ontario.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

YORK (late Toronto)
UPPER CANADA, 16 Septemr., 1793.

Sir,

I do myself the honor of transmitting to you a Copy of the Acts passed in the last session by the Legislature of this Province together with such information of the temper and inclination of the two Houses as I have been able to obtain, it does not appear that there is any disposition in either to oppose the measures of Government by system, and considering that Government has no objects in view but what are evidently connected with the welfare and prosperity of the Province, it would be injurious to suspect Men of common understanding of any such unworthy motives, the measures that have been brought forward by Government are of a tendency so manifestly useful that no opposition has been made to the principle of any of them, the only debates that have taken place have been upon detached clauses. The general cry of Persons of all conditions for the passing the Marriage Bill was such, that I could no longer withhold under the pretence of consulting any opinions at home, having already availed myself of that excuse for delay; There are very few Members of the Church of England in either house and the disposition of the house of Assembly is to make Matrimony a much less solemn or guarded contract than good Policy will Justify. They returned the Bill with a rider giving power to Ministers of every sect and denomination, (of which in this Country there are not a few), to solemnize Matrimony. And it was only on a compromise that they were prevailed upon to withdraw it, from the apprehensions of some persons in the Upper House of losing what they were likely to obtain by the present Bill, and a promise of support to a Bill of any latitude that might be brought in next Session which Mr. Hamilton is to introduce.

The greatest resistance was to the Slave Bill, many plausible Arguments of the dearness of Labour and the difficulty of obtaining Servants to cultivate Lands were brought forward.

Some possessed of Negroes knowing that it was very questionable whether any subsisting Law did Authorize Slavery, and having purchased several taken in War by the Indians at small prices wished to reject the Bill entirely, others were desirous to supply themselves by allowing the importation for two years. The matter was finally settled by undertaking to secure the property already obtained upon condition that an immediate stop should be put to the importation and that slavery should be gradually abolished.

A Bill for the choice of Parish & Town Officers by the election of the inhabitants had been proposed at the first meeting of the Legislature, but was deferred under the Idea that Town Meetings should not be too much encouraged. To give the

nomination altogether to the Magistrates was found to be a distasteful measure—many well affected settlers were convinced that Fence Viewers, Pound keepers, and other Petty Officers to regulate matters of local Policy would be more willingly obeyed if named by the House keepers—and especially that the Collector of the rates should be a person chosen by themselves that if default was made, they could not arraign the Magistrates.

It was therefore thought advisable not to withhold such a gratification to which they had been accustomed, it being in itself, not unreasonable, and only to take place one day in the year.

A Bill was again brought forward to lay a duty upon Spirits imported, which passed the house of Assembly and was lost in the Legislative Council, it was brought forward for a two-fold purpose; or rather by two classes of persons, who proposed to obtain different ends by the same means. One class wished to provide a fund to be disposed of for various objects, the other apprehensive of a tax on Land were ready to obtain a fund by any other means. It was resisted in the Upper House under a firm persuasion that the Legislature of Lower Canada must have recourse to the same Article as the most fitting and productive subject of Taxation in their next session, that Upper Canada might then adopt the same, and go on with equal step, and by that means come to some arrangement to avoid the expence of a two-fold collection of duties; with this view their example has been followed in laying the same duty on Wines as they imposed last session, and a Bill has passed to enable the Governor to appoint three persons for the purpose of treating with the same number from the lower province respecting such regulations as may regard the collection of duties and payment of drawbacks or concern the commerce of the two Provinces, that may be thought mutually advantageous.

It was the inclination of many members in the Lower House and of some in the Upper, by a duty of six pence per Gallon on Spirits to have raised a fund to be applied to all purposes whatever, and thereby to render any other kind of rate, duty, or impost unnecessary. This fund was to supply the Province with all Gaols, Bridges and all works of a public nature to satisfy all county charges and leave a sufficiency for wages for the members; with this view therefore the measure was brought forward a second time—but upon being convinced that the progress of each District in matters of public utility and improvement must be in proportion to the Wealth and number of its inhabitants, and there was a great disparity in the state of advancement in the several districts it was agreed to adopt the plan of district Assessments by a rate upon all real and personal property, and some Members of the Lower House insisting upon the payment of Wages it was thought most equitable that they should be paid by the several Constituents of those who chose to demand them by a particular rate upon the plan of the district Assessment. This project has already created some disgust, and will probably lead to offers of un-rewarded Service from the Candidates at the next election.

The House has complimented the Executive Magistrate with the Nomination of Returning Officers for a period of seven years—no adverse party seems hitherto to have formed itself. But as sooner or later it seems to be the natural result of all political institutions, if I were to indulge in a Spirit of Conjecture, I should be induced to think it may sooner take place in the Upper than in the Lower House, altho' many of the Members are pleased to express a strong attachment to Government. As there is a vacant seat in the Legislative Council I should presume to name Captain Shaw who has already been honored by His Majesty with an appointment to the Executive Council as a character of approved Loyalty and unquestionable Attachment to His Majesty's Government and a proper person to fill it.

Upon the whole tho' there be no direct and systematic opposition to Government, it is apparent, that on the other hand there is no direct support of its measures; and in particular as it seems at the present season proper to avoid making use of the negative of the Crown, I am sorry to observe there is too great reason and probability that the Legislative Council are much more likely to promote than to suppress any attempt that may demand the exertion of that prerogative.

Mr. Hamilton is an avowed Republican in his sentiments and altho' the merchants are justly obnoxious to the settlers of this Province, and He is particularly so, yet the ascendancy He and his friend, Mr. Cartwright *must acquire*, by being Agents for the Contract which supplies the King's Troops with provisions, is of that nature, that there is nothing to prevent them from exercising it to the detriment of Government, if they have any particular Object to promote, that may gratify their avarice, ambition or Vanity. Upon these Considerations, I most anxiously hope that Captain Shaw may be added to the Legislative Council, and as the Chief Justice is of Opinion that He cannot execute the Office of Executive Counsellor under the intimation I have received of his appointment, I must beg that you will be pleased immediately to transmit to me by the way of New York, (and a duplicate by way of Quebec), the proper Authority to enable him to Act as an Executive Counsellor.

I do myself the honor to enclose the resolution of the House of Assembly to request of Government the loan of a specified sum of money to pay their Officers, and the proceedings of the Executive Council, and their compliance therewith.

I have the honor to be with great Respect, &c.,

Your most Obt.

& most humble Servt.

J. G. SIMCOE.

The Right Honorable
Henry Dundas,
One of His Majesty's principal Secretaries
of State, &c., &c., &c.

Endorsed: York (late Toronto) Upper Canada, 16 Sepr. 1793. Lt. Govr. Simcoe. R. 23d Decr. No. 17. (Four Inclosures) (Voluminous)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

PRIVATE

YORK, UPPER CANADA, Sept. 20th, 1793.

Sir,

I hope that the very great importance it is of, that the temporary Establishments in this Province should give place to a more permanent system, will apologize for the particular detail which I have felt myself called upon to submit to your Consideration. The apprehension of Indian Hostilities or from the United States seems to be universal in the Province, & in that case, little is to be expected from a people who have already suffered severely for their Loyalty, & too many of whom poor & dispirited, are more apt to regret what they have lost, than to remember what they have received.

It is my duty to observe that no Recruits can be raised in this Province, so very high is the Price of Wages.

In regard to the last Sessions, the Chief Justice has furnished me with the Observations on the proceedings of the Houses; I follow his Opinion of the necessity of Mr. Shaw's being of the Council: & He dreads the Ascendancy which the provision Contract, independant of the Government of this Province, may throw into the Hands of Messrs. Hamilton & Cartwright.

Amongst the Plans which are now transmitted there is a sketch of the Engineer's, Lt. Pilkington that exactly describes the situation of this Harbour. May I take the Liberty of requesting, Sir, that through you it may be most humbly Offered to His Majesty? This place was named with due celebrity on the arrival of the news that the Duke of York had obtained Possession of the Camp of Famars¹.

I have the honor to be with the most perfect Respect, Sir,

your most Obt & Obligated

J. G. SIMCOE.

*Endorsed: Upper Canada. 20th Sept. 1793. Lt. Govr. Simcoe. R 23d
Decr. Private.*

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

No. 18.

YORK, UPPER CANADA, September 20th, 1793.

Sir,

I do myself the honor of transmitting an actual survey of the River Thames, as far as it serves to communicate between the Lakes Ontario and Sinclair, together with the Military Road leading thereto, and which is now opening by the Queen's Rangers.

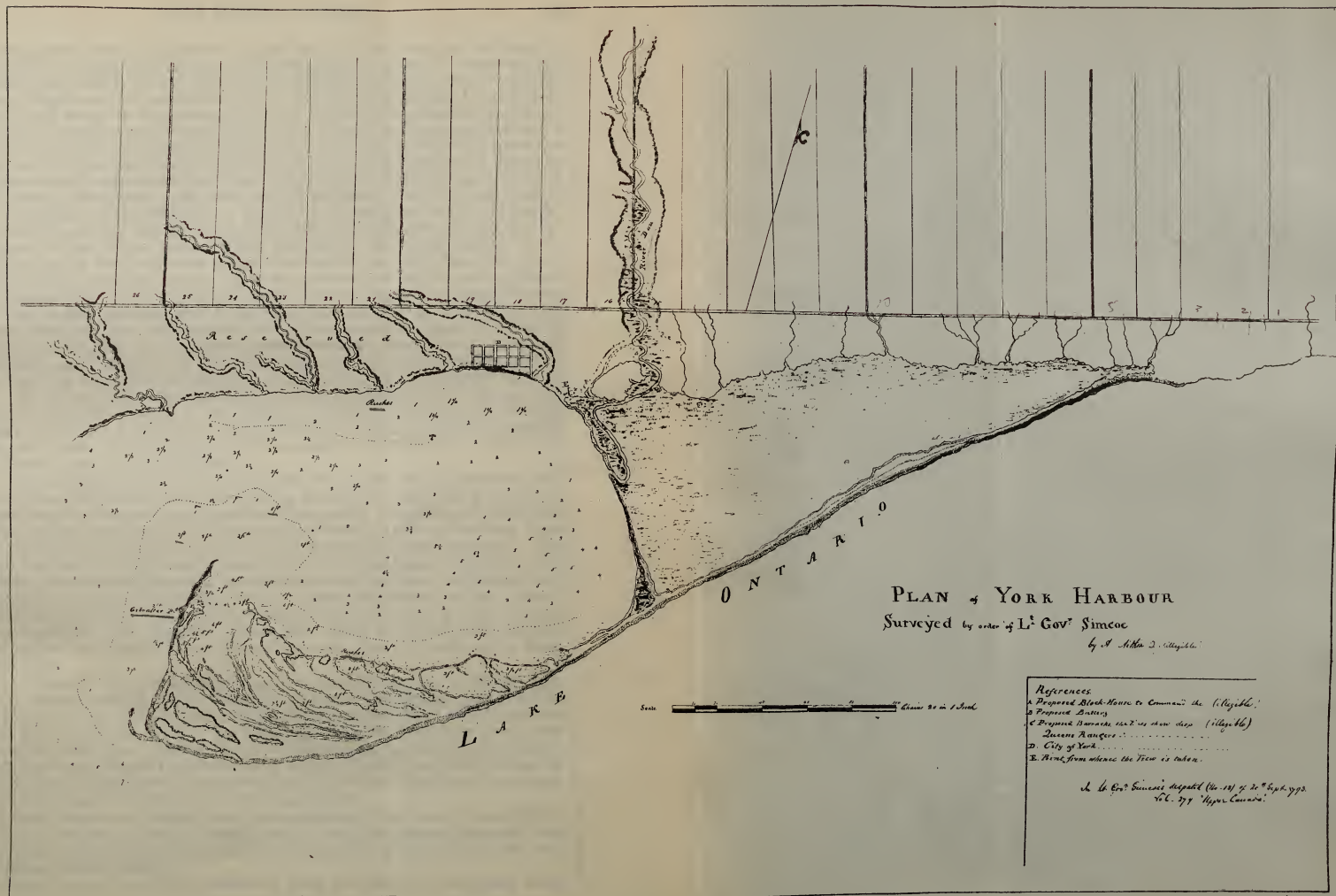
The Tract of Country which lies between this River (or rather navigable Canal as its Indian Name and French Translation, La Tranche, import) and Lake Erie is one of the finest for all agricultural purposes in North America, and far exceeds the soil or climate of the Atlantic States. There are few or no interjacent Swamps and a variety of useful streams empty themselves into the Lake, or the River. I have the pleasure of transmitting an accurate survey of Long Point on Lake Erie, and an Harbour in its vicinity that may, at a slight expence, be strongly fortified and which from its position opposite *Presque Isle*, and its vicinity to Fort Erie is admirably calculated to become the Naval Arsenal on Lake Erie.

I also enclose for your inspection an actual survey of the Harbour of York (late Toronto) the proper Naval and Military Arsenal of Lake Ontario and in a great measure of Upper Canada.

I have information of an Harbour which is described to be an excellent one, three leagues to the southward of Matchadash Bay, on Lake Huron, and of a River some few miles beyond it, whose entrance is said to be navigable; this River I apprehend to be the same which the Indians mention as affording a communication with the main branch of the La Tranche (or Thames).

I beg leave to submit to you, Sir, that under such alterations as the existing circumstances of the Times have rendered necessary, that I contemplate his Majesty's Ministers, as following the general system of their Predecessors, and as considering the Colonization of this Country to be totally subservient to the Maritime Power and Commerce; on which the happiness and safety of Great Britain

¹ May 23, 1793.



in a very great degree is dependent—In pursuance of this system, as previously to the revolt of the Atlantic Colonies, it was thought improvident to colonize beyond the Ohio, and to form distant and internal settlements, so at present, it certainly appears eligible, and not contradictory to her Maritime system, that Great Britain should avail herself of the advantages of her remaining Possessions, and by establishing a naval Force in the inland seas of that Country, and by supporting such a Force by a certain proportion of Colonists, profit from that avidity with which the Leaders of the American Revolution have encouraged all descriptions of People to pass the ancient Boundaries of their former Colonies, and to form new and encreasing settlements on the Shores of the Lakes or on those Rivers which flow into them.

If therefore by the Extension of the British Constitution to Upper Canada, the great Experiment that is now making, shall gradually succeed, and the Inhabitants of that Colony become firmly attached to the British Nation; It is apparent that all the Settlements under the circumstances which have been heretofore described, that may sooner or later be formed within the Line of the United States agreeably to the Treaty, must eventually become beneficial to Great Britain.

Great Britain possesses some Ships upon these Lakes: the United States at present have none; and tho' this naval Force be more specious than real, yet as it turns the Eyes of Men to contemplate Upper Canada as a Naval Power, and places a Rivalship and Superiority in that Point where it seems most necessary that it should exist, it has a relative importance perhaps more valuable than its intrinsic one. The Winter Station and refitting Port of the Shipping on Lake Ontario is at Kingston; this Port which is at the Mouth of the River St. Lawrence, from its extent and situation is absolutely indefensible, and by being constantly frozen up, during the Winter, is certainly liable at that season to be destroyed, as it is at no great distance from the United States.

I propose therefore that the Winter Station of the Fleet, and the refitting Port, and such Naval Buildings as may be wanting, be at York.—this Post is at a great distance from the foreign shore, is capable of being easily defended, and the Grants of Land, having been made by the present Government, sufficient care has been taken, that great reservations of timber should be made for naval purposes. The floating Ice (and a Bridge which it makes from the Islands near Kingston to the Continent) prevents the Shipping in that Harbour as well as in that of Niagara, from sailing for several days in the Spring, when it is practicable to be at Sea from York—a Circumstance of no little moment when the growing Importance of this Colony is in Contemplation. The Shipping on Lake Erie winter at Detroit, they are also frozen up, and unprotected in any shape, from any attempt which may be made against them.

The People of the United States being bent on the occupation of Presque Isle, I beg to propose without loss of time, that an Establishment may take place at *Long Point*, and I conceive from information of the surveyor, that it may be practicable to erect a sufficient Work on the Island mark'd in the Plan A to protect the Shipping in which case I hesitate not in recommending that they be transferred to that Harbour.—should I discover, (as I hope, if I can procure the Indians to accompany me at this Season) the Harbour on Lake Huron, I shall not fail to have a Survey transmitted to you, Sir, the ensuing Summer.

I must observe in a general view, of the maritime advantages of these Ports, that Naval Artificers in case of necessity may be easily transferred from one Lake to the other; it not being more than six days Journey from Long Point to York, and from thence to Lake Huron.

Ships adequate to all the purposes of Lake Erie might be built sixty miles

up the Grand River and floated with the Spring freshes into that Lake: as they might also be constructed very near *Oxford* on the Thames, and floated into Lake Sinclair. In order to induce habits of Civilization and Obedience to just Government and to cherish the Spirit of Loyalty to his Majesty, and attachment to the British Nation, I remain still of my former Opinion that the seat of Government should be situated in the internal Part of the Colony, and by no means be placed in a port on the Confines of the Lakes. It is apparent that there is no spot in Upper Canada so central as to have a speedy and regular communication with all parts of the Province which may be considered as confined between the Ottawa and French Rivers and the Lakes: but it is equally evident that sooner or later, as population encreases and circumstances shall admit, it will be necessary for Purposes of Public convenience, to make some further division of the Canadas, and perhaps Montreal presents itself as the Center of an intermediate Government. — I beg, Sir, to state these Ideas, as in pursuance of them, They lead to the propriety of establishing a Capital of Upper Canada which may be somewhat distant from the center of the present Colony, were there no intermediate motives or political Reasons that may render it expedient.

This Capital, I propose to be established at New *London* as marked on the Map of The Thames, a situation at the Head of the Carrying Place between Lake Ontario and the Thames called *Oxford*, as being a position likely to become a town, and another also, near the mouth of the River which has so many advantages that may make it the Capital of the Lower District. This place is called *Chatham*, to which and for many miles the River is a perfect and safe Harbour, tho' at its mouth there is a Bar, which probably may contribute as much to its defence, as it is taken off the Conveniency of loaded Vessels entering the River.

It is to be observed that no accurate survey has been taken of the Country between Lake Erie and the River Thames; it is generally understood that their Course is nearly parallel, and at a medium no more than forty miles distance; London is supposed to be five and thirty miles from *Long Point*.

I have reserved the Considerations resulting from the intermixture of Indian Nations to this Place, and they are of the most serious and momentous nature.

That part of the Territory which Great Britain possesses in Upper Canada, and which is bounded by a North West Line from Burlington Bay striking the sources of the La Tranche or Thames and proceeding down that River by a westerly Line¹ that strikes Channail Ecarté and follows its course into Lake Sinclair and from thence round the northern Coast of Lake Erie, through the straits of Niagara, and on the Shores of Lake Ontario, till it terminates at Burlington Bay, appears to be the principal Object of Consideration.

The Indian Nations seem perfectly satisfied that this Territory has been justly purchased of them; all remaining Jealousies on that Head having been settled at a Treaty which I held with the Chiefs of the Missassagua Nation the last Winter; who had complained that they had not been paid for the Land as described in the documents I received from Lower Canada.

In this great Country agreeably to the promise of General Haldimand the *Six Nations* have the grant of six miles on each side of the Ouse or Grand River from Lake Erie to its *Sources*.

The extent of this grant was unknown to me untill at a public Council Captain Brant produced the promise under the hand of General Haldimand. A deed for the grant of this Land conformably to the General's Promise was then made out, but, by which the Indian Nations were precluded from the sale or *letting* of their

¹ By a portage from a point on the river near Thamesville to the Sydenham River.

Lands, agreeably to the Original tenor of the Promise and to Lord Dorchester's construction of it: It being obvious that letting of them would equally as selling of them annul the intent of his Majesty's Government in making a permanent provision for the maintenance of the Indians: and leave them at the mercy of the Land Jobbers.

Captain Brant had influence sufficient with the Indians to make them peremptorily reject this deed, and with circumstances in his behaviour that were highly offensive and improper.

In Conversation with him, He said "That the Indian Hunts being worn out and their People fallen into disuse of that method of subsistence, and yet, not being sufficiently advanced in agricultural Arts to maintain themselves, the *Letting* of their Lands appeared to him the most reasonable mode of making provision for their Women, Old Men, and Children. It being my duty to conciliate and unite the Indians as much as possible to give efficacy to their General Council that was shortly to meet the Commissioners of the United States, and in no case it being advisable to irritate or provoke a quarrel with any of the Indian Nations, I waved all further discussion on this Subject; having previously in the public Council offered to state to his Majesty the Wishes of the Indians when such should be intimated by the Six Nations to whom the Land was granted, and not by the *Mohawks* alone; but I suggested to Captain Brant whether the permission to sell a Township on Lake Erie, and another through which the Road must pass that communicates between Burlington Bay and Oxford, to such persons as the King's Government should approve and to place the Money in the British Funds, giving the annual Interest to the Indian Proprietors would not be the best expedient? He seemed to acquiesce in this Idea; which remains for further Consideration.

The termination of the Indian Treaty with the Commissioners of the United States has been communicated to you, Sir, but it appears to me to be necessary to acquaint you that a Chief of undoubted Credit informed Colonel McKee, that Brant had delivered his Sentiments in the Public Council "that for years He had made it his business to become acquainted with the Politicks of Great Britain and the United States; that they were both actuated by a regard to self Interest; that the United States were now the great power on the Continent, and that if they laid aside their resentment and offered terms of Peace to the Indian Nations, it was their business to embrace that Offer—that Great Britain was neither able nor willing to assist them nor would even supply them with ammunition to carry on the War which they were fomenting." I enclose to you a letter which I have lately received from the Chief by which it will appear that *He* is labouring to effect a pacification upon such terms and principles as He shall think proper and which will eventually make him that mediator which the United States have declined to request from His Majesty's Government. In this arduous task I cannot believe that He will succeed as the Western Nations consider him as a Traitor to their Interests, and totally in the Service of the United States. I am by no means of such an Opinion. I believe that He considers the Indian Interests as the first Object—that as a second, tho' very inferior one, He prefers the British, in a certain degree, to the people of the States. Yet I cannot but consider the use He has made of his Power to be the subject of just alarm and that it is necessary by degrees and on just principles that it should be diminished—from circumstances the almost guidance of the Superintendant General's Office as far as the Six Nations have been concerned, has very imprudently centered in the hands of this Chieftain; He has made an Artful use of such a means of power, and appears in himself, to be the dispenser of His Majesty's Bounty.

The Principle that I should wish to adopt at the first seasonable opportunity would be the one which Colonel Butler suggested to me on my arrival at Niagara, and was that of the late Sir William Johnson, which was "to distribute to the old and worn out warriors and women agreeably to a *List* such presents as might be suitable, by which means the general Expences would be gradually lessened." Brant acquiesced in this proposal when I made it to him, and I was in the Act of preparing such a Report for the Commander in Chief in order to its being established, when on Sir John Johnson's return to England He thought proper to recommend such a system to be adopted—Although during the many years of his Superintendancy He had taken no one step to effect so desirable a purpose.—Upon the demand of Colonel Butler for the Indian Presents to be given to the Six Nations being animadverted upon by General Clarke, who observed that they were more considerable in amount than those which Colonel McKee claimed for the Western Indians, I embraced the opportunity of stating to the Commander in Chief that "In regard to the Idea of consequence which Your Excellency suggests may operate to engage Colonel Butler to seek for in the lavish distribution of Presents, I most totally coincide with Your Excellency that such may be the case on a *general principle* and it fortifies my Idea of the absolute necessity of annihilating the Office of Superintendent General in this Province, and of transferring its duties subordinate to the Commander in Chief to the Executive Council.—how far it may be in the contemplation of Colonel Butler I cannot pretend to conjecture, but as a real or supposed influence over the Indians has been the first qualification for the appointments of all the departments in that Office, in the present critical situation I hope that the aggregate of this influence may be so employed as to produce that public tranquility which may induce Your Excellency or Lord Dorchester to approve of those systematic arrangements for lessening the public expences in this department, and of encreasing the national Influence over the Indians, which I shall at such a Period think it my duty to lay before you, and his Majesty's Ministers.—

"It is a sense of this individual influence of Colonel Butler's with the Six Nations, and which has been founded on all those circumstances that are supposed to be a necessary recommendation for this trust, which in my opinion render it proper to accede to the request of the Six Nations that He should attend at the approaching meeting; at the same time I perfectly accord with Your Excellency that in every point of view it is just that Colonel McKee should have the principal management where the interests of the Nations under his Superintendancy are more immediately concerned, and to explain and consult with him on this Subject was the principal inducement on which I took my winter Journey to *Detroit*."

However in Justice to Colonel Butler, I must observe that there is truth in his declarations that the Six Nations have been so much more accustomed to receiving Presents from the former Superintendants than the Western Indians that there is a wide difference in their demands, and that by the kind of civilization which they have undergone they are in reality less capable of procuring their own Sustenance, & therefore more importunate in their demands. I have to regret that the illness of Colonel Butler obliged him to return from the Council at the Miamis, as his Deputies, I fear were liberal of their presents to the Six Nations through the medium of Captain Brant, even when those Nations broke away from the general Council; tho' my express directions to these Officers were that they should consider themselves as totally under the Command of Colonel McKee.

It must be apparent that the Ascendancy which our former Superintendants held over the Indian Nations must be wearing out as the Principal Bodies of these Savages are no longer within our Territories, and of course, there is no succession of

People whose breeding up among them, thro' whose weight we may entertain a reasonable Hope of maintaining the King's Ascendancy over these Nations.

As neither the Authority of Colonel Butler or even of Colonel McKee could prevail on the various Nations under their Superintendancy, to an Union on the late Treaty, It is apparent there is no just grounds for an Expectation of a more extensive Influence being established from its present arrangement of that important Office.

The King's Officers of Capacity and Integrity whom I have employed on Indian Affairs, are astonished at the Profusion and unsystematic Method in which the Presents are delivered to the Six Nations. The Controul that as Commander of the King's Forces, I have over these Presents, is in the first Instance to sanction the Quantity demanded by the Superintendant, this power, as all the requisite Information must come through the channel of the Superintendant, can be of very little efficacy; as in urgent and important cases, it is not probable any Military Officer would be justified in contradicting the requisition for goods which the Deputy Superintendant might allege arose from the necessity of the case, and in common instances no Requisition is likely to be made which affects the general routine of the duty.

The other instance of controul is formed by some of the King's Officers being present at the delivery of the goods—the only check that can be derived from this Controul, is the seeing that the Goods are not given away to White persons, as it is perhaps impossible to prevent those for whom they are destined from receiving them by Agency, In particular, as the Language and acquaintance with the manners of these people is totally confined to the Interpreters and such Assistants are under the Controul of the Deputy Superintendant General.

The Messissagua Indians, who are the original proprietors of the Land, which has been sold to Government make great Complaints of not having received the presents which they stipulated when they sold the Lands. Colonel Butler upon my Enquiry, told me this originated from a mistake of Sir John Johnson's who had given the Presents to the wrong Persons.

Of Colonel McKee I have received no Complaints. I believe him to be an able, most excellent and truly Loyal Servant of the Crown and I am glad to add this testimony to that of Lord Dorchester, as I should hope that his Services should not go unrewarded. I have assured him that I should not fail, Sir, to represent his Conduct in the light which It appeared to me, as deserving of your Protection. The Machinations of the United States and the Influence of their Chiefs it is probable will detach the Six Nations from the Indian Confederacy, alienate them from the British Interests, and I am under some apprehension may eventually turn them against this Colony, an object the People of the United States intimate as sound policy and just retaliation. To obtain a permanent knowledge of Indian Affairs, to place the Influence of this Colony with those People, not on the precarious lives of a few Individuals but upon durable foundations, to cherish the regard and attachment due to the British Nation and his Majesty, I beg leave, Sir, most earnestly to submit to your consideration that the Superintendence of the Indian Affairs of this Country be entrusted to the *Executive Council* of it, and that Colonel McKee, the deputy Superintendent be added to this Council.

The necessity, if such exists, of placing the Indian Affairs under the Commander in Chief may be complied with as at present by the same Inspection of the Officer Commanding the Forces in this Province, subordinate to the Controul of the Commander in Chief of North America.

Added to political Considerations I dare avow that Colonel McKee's additional

Salary would not only be properly Economy, but be justly bestowed as I believe that gentleman has sacrificed, as it is generally affirmed, much of his private fortune in an Office that his present Salary could not support; otherwise he must have had recourse to Public Peculation which I have not the smallest reason to suspect.

The Consequence of this arrangement would I am persuaded be materially felt, and a system might be adopted which gradually may render the Indian Presents far less burdensome and more beneficial than they are at present to Great Britain.

In this detail of the present situation of Indian Affairs, I have also in view to enforce the propriety of those Reasons which so strongly possess me, that It is requisite for the *safety & security* of the Province to occupy the different Posts I have intimated *York, Long Point* and *London* to separate and to command the Indian Nations. The ready access which the former of these Posts has to Lake Huron, and from thence to the mouth of the French River, by which all the north west Trade from Montreal passes into Lake Huron may probably be of great Military importance, and there is little doubt but the produce of the Lands on this Communication (and on the River Thames) in case of *Detroit* being ceded to the United States, will in no distant period be sufficient to supply the North West Trade with such provisions as it may want, and which the Merchants concerned in that Trade constantly represent as the principal Utility, as far as they are concerned of our retaining possession of *Detroit*.

The extent of this settlement reaching to the Waters that fall into Lake Huron, will form a strong Barrier, should the Messassagua Nation (of which at present there is no appearance) be hostile to the British Interests.

Long Point is the favorite Object of all descriptions of People; Its vicinity is represented as the most desirable for Settlements, and whether the restraint which it has been hitherto thought prudent to place upon its Colonization seems to enhance its value, or it really possesses great Advantages, there appears but little doubt but that it will become a flourishing part of Upper Canada. The circumstances of the Indian War have hitherto influenced the Council not to encourage the peopling of a Country, which should the Six Nations be engaged, might become the War Path, to the manifest inconvenience and loss of property, tho' probably not to the personal Injury of the Inhabitants. Should the King's Troops occupy a Post there, which I am anxiously desirous of, care will be taken that the Inhabitants, in its neighbourhood, should be composed of Loyalists of the most determined Principles—and such as may reasonably be expected to arrive by the rout of Presqu'Isle from those Persons of Pennsylvania and Maryland, who at the end of the War were associated to support the cause of the King, and from whom Agents have been sent to signify the wish of many of them to remove into this Government. A strong settlement in this Vicinity would effectually separate the *Mohawks* on the Grand River from the other *Indian Nations*, and prevent what Captain Brant once intimated to me in a letter, "The Six Nations becoming a Barrier between the British and the Western Indians." But, Sir, I ever considered the establishment of the Capital at the place marked *London* on the Forks of the Thames or La Tranche, as the Capital, not only of Upper Canada, but as the mart of all the Independant Indian Nations, & in the present Situation of Affairs, the extension of the Settlements from it to Burlington Bay on the one side, to Long Point and Chatham on the other, will in a short time effectually add the influence of Command over all the Nations within the British Territory, as I trust the King's Benevolence, duly distributed would preserve the foundations of Affection and Confidence, which a long intercourse of benefits ought, and I hope, has established.

Should this place become the Capital of the Country, the facility which the main branch of the Thames gives to the access of the Indians from Lake Huron, and its other streams to those from Lake Sinclair, and the Grand River would render it extremely easy for the King's presents to be delivered to all the nations at a given Season; such excepted, which might be mutually convenient to be issued elsewhere.

In stating for your information, Sir, the system which appears to me to be the best calculated to Consolidate all the Advantages that may be expected from this important Colony, I am to represent to you that I cannot possibly venture to occupy the *Capital* without a competent force; and tho' in my original communications to you, Sir, and to his Majesty's Ministers, I suggested the propriety of a force adequate to those purposes, which circumstances of general Consideration, I presume rendered inexpedient to be adopted; yet, as since that period, his Majesty has thought proper to augment the Establishment of his Army, a sufficient force is thereby already provided to embrace the whole extent of the system which personal observation has most eminently confirmed. If therefore, The Regiments now in Upper Canada shall be compleated early next year to their full complement, and the Arrangement in consequence of such addition left to my discretion, I shall be enabled without alteration of the present Garrisons of *Oswego, Niagara, and Detroit*, to occupy *London* with three hundred men, and *Long Point* and *York* and the necessary Posts of communication with sufficient detachments.

I need not point out to you, Sir, how far this disposition of Posts is preparatory also to the withdrawing of the King's Forces from the Barrier Forts, an event, that must take place sooner or later if the Government of the United States hold their present language; unless it may be thought worth while to enter into a War for their preservation, the Line of Communication I have proposed, will be of such a nature, as that the Troops of the Colony may be collected to operate wherever it may be thought expedient for its security, or for Offence.

It is to be observed that no Military Assistance whatsoever can be expected from the Inhabitants of this Frontier in case of Indian Hostilities, and very little under existing circumstances should there be a rupture with the United States—but whatsoever might be the assistance to be drawn from the Country it certainly would accumulate by the appearance of a central force.

Upon the first news of the rupture with France, I determined to withdraw the Queen's Rangers from the unhealthy Vicinity of Niagara where they were encamped, and to occupy York. I submitted to the Commander in Chief my Intentions and desired his Sanction to Authorize me to construct a Block House to defend the Entrance to the Harbour, detailing to him Its properties and the security it would afford to the civil Government of the Province, at the same time stating in the Capacity of Civil Governor, that was I not obedient to his Authority, I should instantly occupy and in some degree secure that Post, for the residence of the Civil Officers of Government, and that the only protection of the Country should not depend on such a miserable fortress as Niagara, situated within the *Line* of the United States.

As Major General Clarke was in expectation of the arrival of Lord Dorchester, He was not inclined to issue any Orders relative to the Points which I had stated to him, but permitted me to avail myself of such assistance as I had pointed out might be procured from some old cannon that had been condemned (but which yet might be of specific service) and some Carronades to give the appearance of fortifying the Harbour.

The lateness of the Season has prevented me from building *Storehouses* to

lodge the Cargo of the Scipio and other Public Stores consequent to the erection of the Government—these I propose to Construct in such a manner as to serve for the defence of the Harbour and I wish to be authorized to occupy the Post at *Long Point* in a similar method. The Posts at Bois blanc and Maisonville's Island, seem well adapted for the same species of Fortification. I am well aware that all expences for Military fortifications agreeably, Sir, to the Instructions on that Head, should pass in the regular channel of the Commander in Chief to the Board of Ordnance, to receive the Ultimate approbation or rejection, but, Sir, I am convinced it will not escape you that the very peculiar Circumstances of Upper Canada form an exception to that General Principle, the last year I huttred the Queen's Rangers as well as possible near to *Niagara*, and I fitted up the King's Barracks and Storehouses to contain the Officers of the Government, and to accomodate the Legislature of the Province, who must for some time have their annual Assembly at that place. These temporary buildings I thought it a great public saving to refit, as it is most probable they may be required hereafter for various Governmental purposes, or sold advantageously for the public benefit.

As the Buildings were originally military, and in a great part intended for military purposes, the Commander in Chief, General Clarke, convinced of their necessity, admitted them under that cogent exception as Military Works—but it Appears that such an admission has been thought improper, and the Expences of these buildings must rest upon my responsibility as Civil Governor.

The Occupation of the Harbour of *York* I totally take upon myself in that Capacity; and I should forthwith proceed on the Storehouses which I propose to erect, as is most proper for the Public Service, but at the same time being convinced that as permanent Storehouses may be so built as to contribute essentially to the Strength of this important Post, and the whole Colony, and the incorporating such a Military purpose into the arrangement of what is necessary to preserve the Public Stores bringing it under the cognizance of the Board of Ordnance, I feel myself much embarrassed.

Under this difficulty, I have desired the Engineer, Lieut. Pilkington, who is now here, in his way to accompany me to Lake Huron, to furnish me with the aggregate of his Estimate of the Expencc which the purposed Storehouses and Block House will cost, and which I consider as absolutely necessary for the *defence* and *security* of the Province entrusted to my charge, and in the most particular manner which His Majesty's Instructions direct, and which Public Exigency seems at this period most peculiarly to require, I am with all respect most anxiously to solicit your speedy determination thereon.

The Stores which I have been furnished with for the Erection of Public Buildings, Government Houses, &c., are now dispersed in such places as have with difficulty been obtained from other purposes at Kingston and *Niagara*.

If the bona fide completion of the Regiments in this Province to their full establishments shall take place early in the ensuing summer, I shall be enabled by the succeeding Spring to occupy the Capital and to carry into Execution the great business my Heart is engaged in, I trust, to the satisfaction of His Majesty's Ministers, by laying the foundation of a solid support to the Wealth, the Power, and the Navigation of Great Britain.

On the Other Hand, Sir, if existing Circumstances should prevent the Troops in this *Province* from being completed, to their establishment; or when completed, the additional Numbers beyond the present Garrisons shall not be left at my disposal by the Commander in Chief, should such be the case, I trust, that I shall be honored at an early period with your decision—and in that case I am to request that you

will be pleased to intimate whether I shall make use of the Scipio's Stores, and proceed in the Establishment of the seat of Government, in this important and healthy situation, or whether they shall be reserves for some future Arrangement.

I take this opportunity of enclosing the letter which I sent to Mr. Hammond in compliance with the directions in your dispatch of the second of May. I also transmit Colonel McKee's letter on the unfortunate termination of the Indian Treaty with the United States.

I am sorry to add that by late accounts tho' not from Official Authority, there is reason to believe that the Chippewas, Poutewatamies, and Ottawas have left the Indian Confederacy; as these Nations principally live within the British Line, the Success or failure of the Western Indians in their present expedition against the United States may hasten those important consequences, which are always to be dreaded, & must sooner or later happen from the Situation of the People of this Colony in respect to the United States.

I beg to Observe, that should my Plan be adopted and *London* made the seat of Government, a small tract of land must be purchased (as formerly recommended by Capt. Brant) of the *Chippewas*, and under the Circumstances of the Country I should think this a fortunate Event, as in the management of this business, I make no doubt I should be able to conciliate this Powerful Tribe (of whom no purchase has been made) by a trifling Expence to the King's Interest, and the benefit of the Colony.

I have the honor of being with the utmost Respect, Sir,
Your most Obt.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Endorsed: Upper Canada, 20 Sepr. 1793. Lt. Govr. Simcoe. R. 23d Decr. No 18. (Seven Enclosures).

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO GEORGE CLINTON.

NIAGARA, September 20th, 1793.

Sir:—

I was duly honored with your Excellency's letter of the 17th of August, relative to a murder committed by Jacob Valentine on an Onondago Chief with your request that the murderer might be delivered to the Officer of your Government, in case, as is suspected, he shall be found within Upper Canada.

I assure your Excellency that I shall use my utmost endeavor to have this atrocious murderer delivered over to justice and for that purpose have given directions that every assistance be afforded to your Officer who goes in one of His Majesty's vessels from hence to Kingston.

I am aware there are some legal difficulties that might be stated in this business, but I shall always be ready to stretch my authority to manifest any just abhorrence of so foul a crime against the law of nature and of Nations, and, cannot close this my first correspondence with your Excellency without assuring you of my most cordial disposition to promote on every occasion the most friendly intercourse and understanding between our respective Countries.

I have the honor to be with great consideration and personal respect,
Your most obedient and most humble servant,

J. G. SIMCOE.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.
New York.

REQUISITION.

YORK, UPPER CANADA. Sepr. 21st, 1793.

Return of materials necessary for Government Service in Upper Canada.

Fifty Axes agreeably to the form transmitted.

Cranks, Gudgeons & Rag Wheels, other materials to complete Three saw mills.

Paints for Boats & other purposes.

A small Jack, middling sized Jack, & large Jack, with Hooks & Wheels & a Top for laying Ropes—used in a Rope making Business.

J. GRAVES SIMCOE.

Lt. Govr. of Upper Canada.

Endorsed: (in Lieut. Govr. Simcoe's of the 28 Sept. 1793)

(1)

The axes are to be made of the best material and of the Shape and size of the pattern sent. The Ax will then weigh rather more than five pounds but should it be found to be less, it must be encreased to that weight, preserving still the same proportion.

Particular Attention must be given to tempering of the Steel without which the Ax will be of no value as in the case of those already sent over. The little attention given to this particular in England has already deprived her of a great part of the manufactory of edge tools and will eventually deprive her of the whole. Those made in America, tho' not so neatly fabricated are of infinite more value to the several persons who use them. It is Customary with the Manufacturers in America to warrant the Quality of the tools they make for six months, and take back or replace those that are found insufficient.

This ought to be adopted in England.

J. G. S.

Endorsed:—In Lieut. Govr. Simcoe's of the 28th Sept. 1793.

(2).

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO THE DUKE OF RICHMOND.

YORK (late Toronto) 23 Sepr. 1793.

My Lord Duke,

As I have obtained sufficient personal information of the Colony of Upper Canada to enable me to submit to the consideration of His Majesty's Ministers such a general system as seems to be most proper for its present security and future advantage, I have in obedience to the general tenor of my Instructions transmitted a comprehensive report upon this important subject to Mr. Dundas, accompanied by such maps and surveys as might elucidate my opinion.

I have therein also stated at length the reasons which render me unwilling to take upon myself the erection of such fortifications as I am confident the service of His Majesty requires, and which peculiar circumstances as administering the Civil Government of this Country, would most amply justify me in the immediate execu-

tion of, did I not conceive that there might be sufficient time for the submitting my Ideas to the King's Ministers and obtaining of Your Grace military sanction and approbation. Upon this consideration I most respectfully beg leave to submit to Your Grace such a detail of the principles of the species of fortification which I wish to erect at York (or Toronto) and of the particular nature of the ground as it is in my power to procure. The general plan will shew Your Grace the position of the Harbour and Isthmus, which I propose to fortify, the plan of the particular point, the exact nature of the ground. Upon very mature consideration I have adopted as a general principle that in the establishment of this Province in its infant state, and taking into consideration the number of troops which are allotted for its defence, the force and the nature of the surrounding Nations, that Block Houses of stone to be placed on Islands, on points of land, are the least expence and most proper species of fortification. Such Block Houses and in the order I should wish them constructed at York, at the Island near the Harbour at Long Point, at the Islands Bois Blanc and Maisenville, in the Streight of Detroit, and on Missasagua Point commanding the Niagara River, and some point that may serve to command the Harbour and Town of Kingston. My first and principal object is that of erecting a Block House to command York Harbour, an explanation of which, allowing for those deviations that the situations of ground may occasion, may serve to elucidate the Ideas on which the whole may be formed.

To collect the numerous Stores for the Civil purposes of Government which are now dispersed into various places, as the necessity of the case has compelled, I propose that the Store-houses for these temporary purposes should be built so as to become the lower story of a Block House, which might serve for the Arsenals of the Country.

This Lower Story as applicable to a permanent purpose, I propose to make bomb-proof, as the position admits, with such doors and apertures for air, as in case of siege, might be a healthy Barrack for the Garrison to retire to. Upon the roof of this Story, as on a Cavalier, I propose to erect a Barbette Battery of the heaviest artillery, intermixed with lighter pieces, which might not only command the out-works and adjacent Batteries, but also the entrance of the Harbour and all possibility of any Vessel remaining there in safety.

I beg to observe to Your Grace that this is a material object, as there is no place within the Bay between Niagara and this place, where a Vessel that draws three feet of water can enter or anchor in safety.—

The Upper Story I wish to form as a Block House of Wood, musket-proof, but slight, and which might serve generally as a Barrack for the Garrison, but which might be removed with the greatest facility, and if occasion required it may be embarked and put together in any given point at the shortest notice.

The enclosed letter which I do myself the honor of submitting to Your Grace from Lieut Pilkington, contains the aggregate of his estimates. The particulars he left at Niagara, as his presence here was unexpected, my wishing him to accompany me across the communication to Lake Huron.

Added to the material which Lieut. Pilkington speaks of as easily to be procured, I trust that I shall be able to establish a brickyard at a very cheap rate, on a part I wish to level, near to the proposed situation of the Barracks. In the plan, Your Grace will observe the part marked out for Barracks. It is an exceedingly healthy spot, capable of being easily fortified and in that case of essentially contributing to the protection of the Harbour. At present, if it be possible, I mean to hut the Queen's Rangers so that their log buildings may serve as a good security against any attacks of the Indians, should such be meditated at their dispersion,

and the efforts of the United States to turn them against this Colony have spread an incredible alarm amongst the Inhabitants.

A sawmill is building for Government at a most convenient spot, within three miles of the Post, from which I propose to supply all such materials as may be wanted at any Post on Lake Ontario at the cheapest rate. I have collected hither some condemned 18 pounders, which I purpose to have placed on a sandy part marked on the Plan. I have also procured five 18 pound Carronades and ten of 12 Pounders, mounted upon slides. To these I have added an excellent brass medium 12 pounder, intended for a Gun Boat, all which may be placed in the Block House, till it is supplied with Guns proper for its situation and advantages. These Guns I hope may be of the largest Calibre, and that Your Grace will also order me to be furnished with some Howitzers of 10 inches. I perceive that the Peninsula at some future period will be strongly fortified, as the Harbour must become the Naval Arsenal of Lake Ontario. I beg to remark to Your Grace, that the sandy Peninsula is so healthy that the Native Indians have requested permission to encamp upon it with their families at the sickly Season.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

J. GRAVES SIMCOE.

His Grace
The Duke of Richmond.
Master of Ordnance.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO ALURED CLARKE.

YORK, September 24th, 1793.

(Private)

Sir,—

I have just received information by a Person of credibility, that a French Man of the name of Mazeres or Meziere, has been sent by Mons. Genest the French Resident in the United States, into Lower Canada. This Emissary is described to me as a young man of great address and properly qualified to disseminate those democratic Principles in which he is a perfect enthusiast. I think it proper to communicate this circumstance to Your Excellency and am with great respect, Sir,

Your most ob. & most humble, &c.,

J. G. SIMCOE.

To His Excellency, Genl. Clarke.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAPTAIN JOSEPH BRANT TO JOSEPH CHEW, SECRETARY OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, DATED NIAGARA THE 26th OF SEPT. 1793.

"I arrived here some time ago from the Miamis, much disappointed in my expectations & wishes as to a peace, the three Nations, Shawonoes, Delawares, & Twightwees,¹ being in my opinion too much under the guidance & influence of some white people, who have advised them to adhere to the old boundary line as fixed in the year 1768, the Six Nations and Lake Indians, much the most numerous

¹ Often called the Miamis.

tribes were for adhering to the Muskingum Line, as offered to the Americans in the year 1788, from this division amongst us respecting the boundary, it was the cause of our doing no business, we acted consistently, at least I myself did with the dictates of my conscience, and honor & honesty. The Shawanoes, Delawares & Twightwees carried everything their own way, & were determined not to meet the Commissioners from the United States, to treat with them unless the Line they wished for should be admitted. This we the Six Nations & Lake Indians could not concur in, knowing that what they insisted on was by no means fair, this was the reason why the treaty broke up—& should those three Nations not be able to withstand the Americans, (as there is little reason to suppose they will), possession will be got of their Country and they drove back to the Mississippi, unless assisted by the British, (which I suppose will not be the case), the consequences then must be fatal to those Indians as time must ere long convince us.

"I am now on my way to Buffalo Creek to attend at a Council to be held there, at which the Six Nations mean to make an offer to the Americans of the Muskingum as the Boundary Line, should this not be accepted of by them it may be the means of again uniting our Indian Nations and convincing us that the Americans are equally as stubborn on their part, as the Shawanoes &c., are on theirs. After this Council is finished, I shall send you a copy of our journal, with the different Speeches & other occurrences, which passed between the Indians & the Commissioners, from which you'll be able to form a more perfect opinion of the conduct of us all, & then be able to judge whether the Six Nations have acted with propriety or not, I still hope that peace and Unanimity may be brought about, and am determined that no perseverance shall be wanting on my part to accomplish such desirable objects."

Endorsed:

7

*In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Dundas
No 2 of the 25th Oct. 1793.*

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO EVAN NEPEAN.

YORK, UPPER CANADA. Sepr. 28th, 1793.

Dear Sir,

This letter will be transmitted by Captain Lawes, a very old & distinguished officer in His Majesty's Service & an Inhabitant of this Province, as this Gentleman acts as assistant to the Engineer, He can speak with propriety to the request which it is my duty to make.

The axes sent to this Country are so carelessly fabricated as to be totally incompetent to any Service whatever. Those which are constructed in the Country sell at the least for two Dollars at Niagara & increase in Price in proportion to the demand.

I think that Fifty will be the smallest quantity that the Queen's Rangers can possibly execute their public employment with the ensuing year; but should they not be of the prime quality I shall be obliged to purchase them in this Country. I have therefore thought proper to have a model made, which should be exactly attended to & for that purpose I have added an Instruction which has been given to me by a competent judge. I must also beg to be furnished with complete sets of saw mills, Irons, in particular, Cranks, Gudgeons and *Rag Wheels*.

The Scipio's Cargo had merely the *Saws*, & it has been with difficulty that

I have been able to make out from the Iron works of an Old mill that has been permitted to go to ruin sufficient to complete one saw, instead of a Gang of saws, at the mill which I am now erecting at York. The great utility saw mills are in a new settlement is not to be described and is inferior only to the absolute Necessity which It appears to me in respect to Economy that the Government labours under to rescue His Majesty's Service from the imposition of the Merchant Traders, to be able to supply all such materials to the King's Garrisons at a permanent & cheap rate. I also wish for a supply of such *Paint* for Boats &c., as will keep; The charge here being most exorbitant on such Articles which are in perpetual Request.

I am fully determined to establish a Species of Government farms in certain situations, which shall pay the labour of the soldier & shortly provide sustenance for a few Horses necessary to the Service: and which will soon become of material use, as the Roads open, to carry Expresses, which necessary Business is at present managed by the Indians who are exorbitantly paid; and as I had proof last year not trustworthy: as by neglect or Accident the Letters all bore the marks of having been in the flames & how many were really burnt It is impossible to ascertain. I must heartily hope that you & Mrs Nepean are in better health than when I left Europe; I am, Dr. Nepean, your very faithful & obliged servt.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Capt. Lawes¹ purposes to return early in the spring and would be a proper person to be entrusted with any dispatches. He will tell you that I have lived in the Canvass Houses *boarded* in winter. I have constantly lamented I did not obtain that intended for the West Indies; It would have been very comfortable for me, or an excellent hospital.

Endorsed: York, Upper Canada 28 Sept, 1793. Lieut. Govr. Simcoe. R 22d Decr. (Two inclosures)

DIARY OF LIEUT. GOVERNOR SIMCOE'S JOURNEY FROM HUMBER BAY TO MATCHEDASH BAY IN 1793 BY ALEXANDER MACDONNELL, SHERIFF OF THE HOME DISTRICT.²

1793, September 24th. Lieutenant Pilkington of the R. E., Lieutenant Darling of the 5th Regiment, Lieutenant Givens of the Queen's Rangers, and A. Aitken. D.P.S., with two Lake La Claire³ and two Matchetache Bay Indians, embarked in a batteau and went that night to Mr. St. John's,⁴ on the River Humber.

25th. Got up at daybreak to prepare matters for our journey. His Excel-

¹ George Lawe, Surveyor of Works at Niagara; captain 1st Lincoln Regt. of militia; wounded and taken prisoner at Fort George, 27 May, 1813; Sergeant at Arms and Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, Upper Canada, 1792-1816.

² Alexander Macdonell, 1762-1842, the author of this diary was born at Fort Augustus in Scotland and came to New York with his father in 1772; served as a volunteer under Sir John Johnson at the siege of Fort Schuyler and the battle of Oriskany, 1777; ensign in 84th Regt., 1778-9; exchanged into Butler's Rangers as lieut. 1780-4; sheriff of Home District, 1792-1805; member of Assembly for the Counties of Glengarry and Prescott, 1800-12; Speaker, 1805-8; agent for Lord Selkirk at Baldoon, 1805-12; Deputy Paymaster General of Militia, 1812-3; prisoner of war at Fort George, 27 May, 1813; Superintendent of Settlements, 1815-6; Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs, 1816; member of the Legislative Council for Upper Canada.

³ Afterward Lake Simcoe.

⁴ St. John Rousseau, trader, who had an establishment at Baby Point on the Humber River. See also "Simcoe Papers," Vol. I, p. 396.

lency, Lieutenant Governor Simcoe, joined us from York. We shortly afterwards were ready and entered the woods, keeping our course about N.N.W., crossed a long pine ridge. About one o'clock dined upon a small river which empties itself into the Humber, and, to make the loads lighter, took the bones out of the pork. After dinner, re-loaded our horses and pursued our journey. About four o'clock, it beginning to rain, we encamped on the side of the Humber, at the west extremity of the 3rd concession. We here got some wild grapes and a quantity of crawfish.

26th. At eight o'clock continued our journey. In the early part of the day, went over a pine ridge; but from ten to six in the evening, when we encamped, went through excellent land for grain or grass, the trees uncommonly large and tall, especially the pine. Crossed two small creeks which emptied themselves into the Humber, on one of which (Drunken Creek) we dined, and encamped on the second. The land through which we passed is chiefly wooded with maple, bass, beech, pine and cedar. During this day's march we passed the encampment of an Indian trader, who was on his way to his wintering ground on Lake La Claie.

27th. Proceeded on early in the morning. Shortly after leaving our fires went through a ridge of very fine pine, which appeared to be bounded by a deep ravine to the north. After crossing in an oblique direction the pine ridge, went over excellent land, black, rich mould; timber, maple, beech, black birch and bass. Crossed a ravine and ascended a small eminence of indifferent land. This height terminated in a point, and a gradual descent to the River Humber, which we crossed. We dined here, and remained two hours to refresh ourselves and horses. While at dinner, two men with two horses, who left the end of the carrying place in the morning, met us. They were going to bring forward the trader which we passed the preceding day, and his goods. After dinner proceeded on. Went over very uneven ground, the soil in some places indifferent, but in general not bad land. Saw some very fine yellow pine and black birch. About six o'clock came to the end¹ of the carrying place and encamped. Here found Mr. Cuthbertson,² Indian trader, and owner of the hut we passed the day before, encamped.

28th. After breakfast, Messrs. Givens and Aitken, with two Indians and two white men, went up the river³ for three canoes which had been previously provided for the Governor, and I went with three Rangers to erect a stage near the river to put the pork, &c. on, when brought down from the encampment. Having accomplished this, upon our return we cut a few trees to make a bridge upon a bad pass in the swamp. Returned to camp about two o'clock, and shortly afterwards to the stage with seven of the Rangers, all with packs which we put upon the stage. We here met Messrs. Givens and Aitken, having returned with the canoes. The whole then returned to camp only me, who remained to take care of the baggage. In about two hours the whole came down, and we immediately embarked into five canoes, viz. the Governor, Mr. Aitken, an Indian and two Rangers in one; Messrs. Pilkington and Darling with their two servants in the second; Mr. Givens and two Indians in a third; and an Indian and two Rangers with me in the fourth; and Mr. Aitken's surveying party in the fifth. We dragged our canoes till we came to the river over a part of the swamp where it would be impossible to walk without their support, it being a quagmire, the skin or surface of which was very thin. Proceeded about a mile and a half or two miles along the river, which in this short

¹ On the west branch of the Holland River, near Kettleby, Ont.

² Elsewhere written Culbertson. He was a Scottish fur trader who lived in Kingston for many years.

³ The Holland River, (West Branch).

distance has several turns. Went about a quarter of a mile up a smaller river¹ which empties itself into the former and encamped. Soon after making our fires, the Great Sail² and his family, (Messassagues), who were encamped further up the river, came to visit their Great Father, the Governor, to whom they presented a pair of ducks, some beaver's meat, and a beaver's tail. The Governor gave them some rum and tobacco.

29th. Embarked into our canoes in the same manner as the preceding day, paddled down the river, which is a dead water, bordered on each side with quagmires, similar to the one we hauled our canoes over. About two hours after leaving camp, Mr. Givens came into my canoe and the Indian went into his; but our canoe made much water and we could not keep up with the others, we shortly after got the Indian back again. At twenty minutes after one we entered Lake La Claie, now Lake Simcoe, so called in memory of Captain Simcoe of the R.N. At the entrance of the Lake, we saw two canoes, who upon seeing us paddled off to their village, which was upon a point³ about four miles off, to apprise them of the Governor's arrival. We paddled on towards the point and passed the village close in shore. The Indians, who were by this time assembled, fired a *feu de joie* to compliment His Excellency, which we answered with three cheers, and then doubled the point, and put in shore in a small sandy bay to dine. Soon after our landing the Indians came in a body to wait on the Governor, to whom they presented a beaver blanket, which he declined taking then, but promised to take it upon his return from Matchetache Bay. They were all more or less drunk and made rather an unintelligible speech. They got liquor from four Canadians who had been sent from Matchetache Bay by Cowan, an Indian trader, to buy corn. His Excellency was sorry that he could not see Keenees, the chief of the village, with whom he was acquainted, as he was dangerously ill. We left our smallest canoe here, and got one Indian in lieu of the two Indians belonging to the village, who preferred remaining to proceeding on the journey. After dinner we re-embarked, and the wind being fair, hoisted sail, and about dark put in shore and encamped in a cedar grove about six miles from the village.⁴

30th. Left our encampment about ten o'clock. Mr. Givens was taken into the Governor's canoe, and in his place one of the Rangers put into mine. Sailed on with a strong breeze about six miles, and it blowing too fresh to cross Kempenfelt Bay, put in at Point Endeavour,⁵ where we remained till two o'clock and dined. After dinner, the wind moderating a little, we again hoisted sail and crossed the bay, which is between seven and eight miles deep and four or five wide. We had scarcely got over when the wind blew hard ahead, and it beginning to rain we encamped in a pleasant spot⁶ on the side of the lake.

October 1st. Embarked about eight o'clock, and having a contrary wind, had to paddle against a head swell, which impeded our going much, and frequently

¹ On the North Branch of the Holland River. The position of Great Sail's encampment, half a mile farther up the same stream, has been well known locally, being on Lot 7, Concession 3 of West Gwillimbury Township, about three-quarters of a mile up the branch from the main river.

² His descendants have been well known as the Big Sail family of Snake Island. In the version of this Diary printed in the Trans. Can. Inst., Series IV, I. 128-139, the name is incorrectly given throughout.

³ Since known as DeGrassi Point.

⁴ On the Innisfil shore, opposite Fox Island.

⁵ Named Big Bay Point since settlement.

⁶ An Indian landing-place at a cove on the Oro shore.

dashed water into our canoes. Put in for a few minutes to take the bearings at a bluff point¹ about six miles from our last encampment. This being accomplished we coasted close in shore for some time, and, the wind abating, made for an island near the head of the lake, and landed there about two o'clock and dined. This island, now Francis's Island,² is pleasantly situated, having a fine prospect of the lake. The Indians used to raise corn upon it, but have not for some time. It is quite covered with long grass. About two o'clock we embarked and shortly after leaving the island entered a small straight,³ near the far extremity of which we saw two Indians in a canoe paddling across. So soon as the Indian in the Governor's canoe perceived them, he gave the death hallow; the strange Indians made for land, and we, seeing the wigwam, followed. So soon as our Indian got near enough to be heard, he made a melancholy detail of the number of deaths that had lately happened among the Lake Simcoe Indians, and closed his speech with saying "that the end of the world was at hand, Indians would be no more." An old Indian, owner of the wigwam, gave a similar unpleasant account of the great sickness in his neighbourhood also, and added that he expected his eldest son would soon change his climate, and that nothing but his being unwell prevented his going to his wintering ground. His Excellency made this family a small present, and we parted. Soon after leaving them, the wind turning fair, we hoisted sail. At this place the lake widens, and is interspersed with small islands, on some of which the Indians had planted corn, turnips, and squashes. About sunset got to the head of the lake, entered the river Matchetache,⁴ and encamped.

2nd. Proceeded down the river, and in the space of two hours had to carry our canoes, &c. over two portages. A short distance below the first carrying place the Black River empties itself into the Matchetache, and changes the colour of that river from a clear to a dusky brown, which it does not vary until it enters the bay of the same name upon Lake Huron. Below the second carrying place the river widens, and at about a distance of six or seven miles from it we crossed a small lake⁵ about six miles in circumference. Put on shore and dined upon a point where we got various kinds of berries. Mr. Pilkington's canoe and mine, being leaky, were hauled out of the water and gummed well. After dinner pushed off, and about sunset came to a third carrying place, where, after hauling up our canoes, we encamped. This place is said to be much infested with rattlesnakes; it certainly has much the appearance of it, being almost a solid rock, with a few scrub-

¹ At Carthew's Bay.

² The largest of the two islands at the entrance of the lake was given the name of Darling; the other that of Pilkington. Two streams flowing into the east side of the lake were named Grey's river and Talbot's river in honour of members of Simcoe's staff. Francis Island was named in honour of his son. "Francis Island is in the north part of lake Simcoe, near the narrows leading to a small lake. Between this island and the north shore, vessels may lie in safety. From the bay west of Francis Island there is a good path, and a short portage into a small lake; this is the nearest way to Lake Huron." Smith, Gazetteer of Upper Canada. It is now known as Grape Island. The name of Canise, the Indian chief, (Keenees) was given to an island in the southern part of the lake.

³ "The Narrows" leading from Lake Simcoe into Lake Couchiching.

⁴ Known as the Severn River.

⁵ Sparrow Lake.

by pines and oaks growing upon it. John Vincall of the Rangers, cut one of his toes almost off here. To the left of the carrying place is a handsome fall, and below that an impetuous rapid.¹

3rd. Had the canoes, &c. carried across early in the morning and after breakfast proceeded down the river. Went through several rapids and crossed two more carrying places. At two o'clock arrived at, and had everything carried over a fifth portage. The scene of the place is pleasing and romantick; the portage is a solid level rock, with a few small pines and oaks growing out of the rents. The falls rush, as may easily be conceived to be the case, from an immense body of water, having a great descent, and being condensed between two rocks, at not more than fifteen feet asunder. After dinner continued our journey, and soon after crossed a sixth portage. Shortly after re-embarking it began to rain, and we encamped upon a small island about two miles below the last mentioned carrying place.

4th. Loaded our canoes early in the morning and embarked. The wind being fair hoisted sail, and in about three or four hours arrived at a seventh and the last carrying place. Having crossed our canoes, &c., and again re-embarking, at 11 o'clock we entered Matchetache Bay. The Indians being apprised, by an express across the country from Oakland Point, of the Governor's being near at hand, were assembled upon a point at a short distance from the last carrying place. Upon seeing them we made towards them. When we got within a few yards of the shore they complimented His Excellency with a *feu de joie*, which we answered with three cheers, and immediately landed. After all the Indians had shook hands with the Governor, the chief presented him with two dozen ducks. His Excellency thanked him and told him he would be happy to see him and his band in the evening at Mr. Cowan's on the opposite side of the bay. Re-embarked and sailed across in little more than an hour; it blew so fresh before we arrived that we were obliged to lower our sails. Upon landing, unloaded and hauled up our canoes, encamped in the woods a small distance from the lake and about half a mile from Mr. Cowan's house, or rather fort, for it is a square stockade; his house is in one, his store opposite to it in another, an out-house for potatoes, corn, &c. in a third, and the gate in the fourth. He does not allow the Indians to get drunk within the garrison. Soon after we had encamped the Indians arrived, and the Governor made each of them a present of tobacco. About eight o'clock Mr. Cowan, who had been out hunting all day, returned. He sent His Excellency some ducks, and shortly afterwards came to pay his respects. Mr. Cowan is a decent, respectable looking man, and much liked by the Indians. He was taken prisoner by the French at Fort Pitt during the war of '58 and '59, when a boy. He has adopted all the customs and manners of the Canadians, and speaks much better French than English. He has been settled at Matchetache upwards of fifteen years without once going to Lower Canada. He makes an annual trip to Michillimackinac to meet his supplies there and forward his furs to Montreal. He has in general six

¹Known as The Ragged Rapids, and Swift Rapids, at which there is now a generating station of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario. Mrs. Simcoe's "Diary" (Toronto, 1911), contains her copies of Lieut. Pilkington's sketches of various rapids and falls on this Severn River.

Canadians engaged with him, and is well known to that class of people by the name of Constant.¹

5th. Mr. Cowan, having been desired by the Governor the preceding evening to attend next morning to interpret, arrived after we had breakfasted, and the Indians being met, addressed the Governor in the usual manner: "They were happy to see him in good health and thanked him for taking the trouble of visiting them in their own country &c." The Governor replied that he would always be glad to hear of the prosperity of the Indians, and entreated them to attend to their hunts, and told them that he wished for nothing more than seeing them and his children, the whites, live in harmony together and mutually assist each other. He promised them a keg of rum which should be delivered to them the day of his departure from the bay, and told the chief he would send him from York a silver medal and a flag, the usual badges of distinction, which this chief had not as yet received. They then shook hands and went away well satisfied. I must here observe that the Lake Simcoe Indians were much mortified at the Governor not taking the beaver blanket when offered to him. This they communicated to the Matchetache Indians by the express which went overland; and they simply replied that their Father did right not to take it, that they should have made his bed upon his arrival at York, (as they did), and not waited for his arrival in their village. The Matchetache Indians had made his bed at York by presenting a beaver blanket. Soon after the departure of the Indians His Excellency, Mr. Cowan, and the gentlemen of the party embarked in one of Mr. Cowan's large canoes, worked by five Canadians (leaving the Rangers, &c. at the encampment), intending to visit Penetanguishin, a place supposed to be a good harbour for vessels. The wind blew so fresh that we could not effect our purpose, especially as we had a wide traverse to make. We however, landed upon an island called by Mr. Cowan, "Place la Traverse."² We got to a point opposite to it and had an ample view of it, and from its appearance and the account Mr. Cowan gave of the depth of water, I believe His Excellency

¹George Cowan, otherwise known as Jean Baptiste Constant or Constance, was subsequently appointed official interpreter for the Indians residing near Lake Huron. In a letter to Joseph Chew, dated at Detroit River, 22nd January, 1797, Alexander McKee wrote. "This man was nominated for the Messasagues from the strong recommendation of Lieut. Governor Simcoe & appointed by Lord Dorchester, 7th July, 1796, together with Johnston & Price for the 6 Nations.

"I believe there is no doubt that Constance is one of the best Chippawa and Messasague Interpreters in this Country, he is besides a man of great influence from a long residence among them & it was considered proper by His Lordship there should be one for that Nation at Niagara."

His trading post was situated on the east side of the long arm of Matchedash Bay that extends inward nearly to Coldwater village, and almost opposite Fesserton railway station. It was near here that Simcoe's camp was placed during this visit. Cowan was one of those drowned when the government schooner "Speedy" was lost in 1804, while conveying officials to hold a court near Brighton for the trial of an Indian for murder. In the Journal of Indian Transactions at (Fort) Niagara, 1767, (Doc. Hist. of N.Y., II. 868, Svo. ed'n) the name of this interpreter is given as Jean Baptiste de Couagne. According to Rod. McKenzie's Narrative (L. R. Masson's "Bourgeois de la compagnie du Nord-Ouest," II, 9) Cowan had a temporary trading lodge at La Cloche in 1785.

²Now known on all maps as Prince William Henry Island, but by all the resident population of the district surrounding it as Beausoleil Island. By the voyageurs of Simcoe's time it was known as Isle du Traverse, because it lies across the mouth of Matchedash Bay. The distance across the open passage from the place where Simcoe viewed Penetanguishene harbour to the Pinery Point on the mainland is less than two miles. On the mainland here are the high cliffs on the shore from which the harbour gets its name—"Place of the rolling sands." Capt. Gotther Mann had reported to Lord Dorchester that Matchedash Bay with its environs were all shallow (see Vol I, p. 342). And Simcoe endeavoured now to improve upon that selection and find near it a proper naval station. The selection of Penetanguishene harbour which he now made resulted subsequently in the Indian treaty of 1793 for land adjacent to it, and the establishment of the British naval station there in 1815.

was satisfied with its sufficiency for the reception of vessels of eighty or ninety tons. To judge from the wood the land about it seemed to be very good. It lays about six miles within Matchetache Bay, and nearly nine miles from Mr. Cowan's. We walked a mile and a half or two miles further, and had a fine view of Lake Huron, then returned to the canoe and dined. After dinner re-embarked, the wind being fair, hoisted sail and arrived at our encampment about an hour after sunset.

6th. Between nine and ten o'clock left our encampment, launched our canoes, and set off on our return home. Put in at the point where we had met the Indians on the morning of the 4th instant, and His Excellency gave them the keg of rum agreeable to his promise. After some little ceremony on their part in wishing us favourable weather and a clear day, &c., we pushed off from shore, upon which they saluted as they did on the day we arrived in the bay, and we answered as before with three cheers. Paddled on and soon arrived at the carrying place: brought everything across, and without halting pursued our journey, went about five or six miles further on, and landed upon an island. One of our Indians getting sick, Mr. Givens, with a white man and the other two Indians, returned to the point to bring back the sick man and get another in his place; but before they got down the Indians on the point had paid their devoirs so very strenuously to the rum keg that they had not the use of their limbs or reason. Finding that none would come with him, and expostulation being vain, he put the sick man on shore, pushed off, and joined us in the evening. Finding it too late to proceed after Mr. Givens's return, we encamped where we were.

7th. Got everything on board before sunrise. In consequence of our losing an Indian the preceding day, the one that was in my canoe was removed to the Governor's and one of the Rangers sent into mine in lieu. Paddled up the river and got over two carrying places, upon the second of which we breakfasted, the same on which we dined on the 3rd. After breakfast His Excellency and the gentlemen of the party crossed to the opposite side of the river to view a fall which could not be seen from that we were upon. Having satisfied our curiosity, we recrossed, embarked into our different canoes and pushed off. Crossed two more carrying places, upon the second of which we encamped about sunset, the one upon which we slept on the night of the 2nd.

8th. Some of the canoes being leaky were here gummed, after which we got on board, paddled pretty hard, crossed the two remaining carrying places, and half an hour before sunset got to the head of the lake, and encamped on the spot we had occupied on the 1st.

9th. Embarked after breakfast, and having paddled against a head wind and swell, arrived at Francis's Island at twelve o'clock. His Excellency did intend going from this island round the opposite side of the lake to what we had come, but finding only four days' provision remaining and not knowing what time it would take us by so doing, he judged it more expedient to return by the way we had come; therefore after dinner got on board, crossed to the main land, and before sunset encamped where we had slept on the 30th of September.

10th. Got into our canoes before sunrise, being fearful that we would have the wind ahead and wishing to cross Kempenfelt Bay before it blew too hard. Our apprehensions were confirmed. The wind began to rise, but we luckily got over the bay before the lake was too rough. Put on shore and breakfasted at Endeavour Point. Re-embarked and coasted along shore. At one o'clock put in and dined about two miles distance from the village. Having dined and got on board we paddled on and soon came abreast of the village. The Indians fired a

feu de joie, and we gave three cheers. Got round the point, put on shore in a small bay, hauled our canoes on shore and encamped in rear of the village. While we were making up the fires and preparing everything for the night, His Excellency humanely went to pay a visit to Keenees, the chief, who, as I have already mentioned, was dangerously ill when we passed on our way to Matchetache Bay, but on his getting to his wigwam he was informed that he had been dead for some days. A man possessed of less sensibility and feelings than the Governor would have been shocked on this occasion, but his were plainly painted on his countenance upon his return to camp. About six o'clock a number of squaws came to visit the Governor. Two of them carried the images of their deceased husbands, dolls about two feet long, decorated with silver broaches, feathers, paint, &c., if a chief, as was the case with one of these, (Keenees), his medal is hung to his neck, the face painted black. His Excellency gave them some knives and looking-glasses, and shortly after they retired. At 8 o'clock the Indians came in a body, and being seated around the fire, each got a dram and a piece of tobacco, after which the chief got up, thanked their Great Father, and presented him with the beaver blanket, which he spread under him. He then said: "You white men pray; we poor Indians do not know what it is, but we hope you will entreat the Great Spirit to remove the sickness from amongst us." To which the Governor replied that they should certainly be remembered in the prayers of the whites. He then ordered them a keg of rum, and they went away perfectly happy, and highly pleased that the blanket was accepted, and that they had made their Father's bed.

11th. About 9 o'clock left our encampment, embarked, and soon got out of the lake, paddled up the river about three miles, and then got into another river,¹ and about two o'clock got to the landing place at the red pine fort. His Excellency, finding that John Vincall, the man who cut his toe on the 2nd, could not walk, desired Mr. Givens, his servant and me to remain with him, and that upon his arrival at York, he would send a horse to meet us at the old carrying place, for the man to ride; therefore after dividing our little stock of provisions and dining together, we parted; the Governor and the rest of the party going to York by the new route,² Givens, McEwen, Vincall and myself remaining. It beginning to rain we encamped there that night.

12th. Got into our canoe before sunrise, paddled down the river till between 8 and 9 o'clock, then put on shore to eat breakfast, which having done, re-embarked and made the best of our way to the place where we had encamped on the night of the 28th of September, which we reached about sunset. Saw many ducks but so wild that we could not get within shot of them; killed only one mud-hen.³

13th. Mr. Givens and his servant went out very early in the morning to hunt ducks. Vincall and I remained behind to pound and boil Indian corn for our breakfast. They returned about two o'clock with two ducks only. About half an hour before sunset Mr. Givens and I went up the river to get some birch bark to make torches with to spear fish. On our way up fired repeatedly at ducks without any success; killed one but could not find it. Having put on shore about two miles up the river and got a sufficiency of bark, returned to our encampment at 8 o'clock.

¹ The east branch of the Holland River. The government pine fort (log buildings, with shutters) was named Gwillimbury by Simcoe, commemorating the name of his wife, *née* Miss Gwillim.

² Yonge Street, then just opened by the Queen's Rangers to this place, 32 miles from Toronto Bay.

³ The name given in parts of Canada to the bittern.

14th. Got up at daybreak, and while preparing to go to hunt found that we had but two quarts of corn, and a small piece of pork remaining. Mr. Givens and I therefore resolved to go back to the Indian village to get some supplies. After eating about a pint of corn and a small piece of pork embarked into our canoe and shortly after leaving camp, the wind being fair, hoisted sail. We were very soon after forced to lower it, as it blew too fresh, cut off about two feet of the mast, reefed the sail and hoisted it again. We shortly after met the Great Sail and his family in two canoes going to their wintering ground. We gave him some powder and shot; he gave us two ducks and promised to take care of our men until we returned. Sailed on and near the entrance of the lake we met two canoes with two Indians in each. Got eight ducks from them for powder, shot, and a looking-glass. Hauled the canoe on shore, made a fire and gum'd her. Having made her as tight as we could, we again pushed off, hoisted sail, and passing the village, landed in the bay where we dined on the 29th of September. Hauled the canoe on shore, turned her upside down and made a fire. It being late when we arrived, we had not time to get much wood, had scarcely sufficient to broil two ducks for supper. It beginning to rain and the wind shifting suddenly about, we were forced to carry our canoe, &c., to the opposite side of the fire, and turned our backs to the lake. Crept under the canoe and passed a very uncomfortable night.

15th. Early in the morning three squaws came down to gum our canoe, and the Indians bartered as much corn with us as we wanted. It blew so hard that we could not possibly set out on our return, and it being too cold to remain on the beach, went further into the woods to encamp. We lamented much not being able to return to our men, the more so as they had but a scanty allowance of provisions when we left them, although we took none from them. About two o'clock we broiled a couple of ducks and breakfasted. Shortly after two squaws came down to our fire with more corn to sell. We told them we had enough to bring us home and wanted no more, that we were chiefs and not traders. We gave them a few broaches and some ribbon, and desired them to carry their corn home. In the evening two more came on a similar errand, and we made the same reply as to the former two. They brought us a sufficiency of fire wood, for which we gave each a ribbon. They then left us and we had no more offers of corn to barter. Being sleepy we went early to bed, but were both too unwell to get any rest.

16th. Got up at daylight, tho' still very sick, but, seeing the necessity of returning to our men, launched our canoe, put everything on board, and pushed off to go to Mr. Cuthbertson's, (an Indian trader), on the opposite shore of the lake. Putting the canoe in the water was a disagreeable task, as it had frozen hard the night before and was then so cold that the water froze upon our paddles. About half way over to the trader's Mr. Givens got so very sick that he could not paddle, and as I was also unwell and not able to work now, we were a considerable time in getting across. Upon our arrival Mr. Cuthbertson received us very hospitably. He gave us chocolate for breakfast which revived us. Finding that in our then situation we could not bring the canoe up by ourselves, we hired an Indian, and Mr. Cuthbertson let us have one of his men to help us. Having got a gallon of spirits from him we started. Soon after embarking we found the canoe still leaked, therefore put on shore at the Indian village, hauled her up and gummed her. We saw there only one old squaw and a boy, all the rest having gone off that morning to their wintering ground, and they were soon to follow. At 12 o'clock left the village. When we came to the forks of the river we saw an eagle sitting on a muskrat house. The Indian in the bow fired, but in vain, being only loaded with duck shot. At eight o'clock we reached our encampment, and tho' we were appre-

hensive that our men had suffered during our absence, we found upon enquiry that they had fared much better than we had, the Great Sail having supplied them with duck and Indian corn.

17th. A little after sunrise Mr. Cuthbertson's man and the Indian parted with us. We gave them our canoe to bring them back. Soon after the Great Sail, (who had encamped on the opposite side of the river), paid us a visit, and brought us four ducks. We thanked him for the care he had taken of the men in our absence, and told him that it would please their and our Father at York, as he wished for nothing more than such mutual good offices between the Whites and Indians. This being the sixth day since we parted with the Governor, and the day by him appointed for our crossing to the beginning of the portage, we provided corn for two days, borrowed a canoe from the Great Sail, and embarked. We soon reached the stage which we had erected on the 28th, and in two trips carried everything up to our old encampment. When we returned to the stage the second time we there met two of the Great Sail's sons, who came to bring three more ducks and to bring back the canoe we had borrowed. We gave the boys a few yards of ribbon each, and had given their father at parting in the morning all the powder and shot that we could spare. They were satisfied and we were pleased. Soon after encamping and putting on the fire a kettle full of Indian corn and a few ducks for our supper, Sergeant Malley and another man of the Rangers, guided by one of the three Indians who went with His Excellency, (the other two remained behind them a short distance), arrived from York with a horse for the lame man. The Governor was pleased to send us by them brandy, wine, tea, sugar, pork, and bread. We made a hearty supper, and concluding the evening with a can of grog to his health, went to bed.

18th. The horse being missed two of the men were sent in search of him, but returned unsuccessful. The Indian was then sent and in a very short time found him. Packed everything up, made our packs, and when ready to start the two remaining Indians arrived. Parted with them at eleven o'clock and marched on. At four o'clock arrived at the Humber, crossed it and encamped, the horse being too much fatigued to proceed, having had a forced march the preceding day.

19th. Tho' it rained all the night before, set out at daylight. At 12 o'clock halted at the creek where we met the trader's tent on the 26th, and breakfasted. At one o'clock continued our journey and at three came to the spot where we had encamped on the 25th, stopped for about a quarter of an hour, then pushed on and arrived at St. John's a little past four in the evening, and slept there that night.

20th. Left St. John's after breakfast, and arrived at the camp at York at ten o'clock, having been absent 27 days, without any accident happening except Vincall cutting his toe.

FROM HENRY DUNDAS TO J. G. SIMCOE.

No. 2.

WHITEHALL, 2d Octr, 1793.

Lt. Govr. Simcoe,
Sir,

Having submitted to His Majesty the inclosed Requisitions delivered to me by Capt. Stephenson at your desire, I transmit to you my Answer to them, taken separately and in the Order in which they stand.

In Answer to the first Article, I am of opinion that you should immediately

communicate it to the Commander in Chief at Quebec, in order that such a Supply of Artillery may be sent from thence to Upper Canada, as can be spared for the present, the which may be replaced from hence by the earliest Ships of next Year, with such an additional quantity as shall be judged proper, upon the representation of the Commander in Chief to the Master General of the Ordnance.

2nd. I have already in my Letter to you of the 2d May last, given my opinion that a Company of Military Artificers may be usefully employed in Your Province. You will therefore communicate with Lord Dorchester on this Subject. I conceive that such a Company should be provincial and might be put upon the same footing & subject to the same Military Discipline as shall be established for the Naval force on the Lakes, on which I shall remark in its proper place.

3d. In respect of Mr. McGill's Commission I observe that it is a Warrant from the War Office by which he is appointed Commissary of Military Stores and Provisions in the Province of Upper Canada, and I apprehend that neither the Commission nor the division of the late Province affects the Anterior appointment of Commissary General of Quebec: But as the Military Department to which they both belong extends over both Provinces, no difficulty I conceive can arise from their division; Besides as I understand that the Lords of His Majesty's Treasury propose to account only with One Commissary, Mr. McGill's appointment must consequently be considered as a subordinate One.

4th. Mr. Small having long since received His Majesty's Appointment to the Office of Clerk of the Executive Council, my compliance with your request in favor of Major Littlehales, how much soever inclined I might be to attend to it, is for the present rendered impracticable.

5th. On the Subject of a Surveyor General for Upper Canada I have given my Opinion in my Letter to You of the 15th Augt. 1792, to which I refer you on this Occasion.

6th. It will certainly be proper to give all reasonable encouragement to Clergymen of good Morals and sound principles, and that such might not be left without support during the intermediate period before the Lands allotted for their Support become productive, all Grants of Lands are for the Present Subjected to Tythes, in order to enforce, whilst necessary, a reasonable subsistence for the Clergy. I enclose to you an Extract of a Letter from me to Lord Dorchester on this Subject dated 16th Sept. 1791.

You will of course consult with the Bishop of Quebec on these points, and I shall at present only add that I am of opinion that it is from hence for the present that the necessary supply for the Provinces of Clergymen properly and duly qualified for their duty must be looked for.

7th. I doubt much of the expediency of settling any Strangers at Detroit or at any other place concerning which there can be a doubt of its being within the boundary Line. Such a Step might eventually embarrass us in Our future Proceedings with the American States.

8th. There cannot be a doubt but that the Settlers at Detroit & at the other Posts are Subject to the Laws of the Province in like manner with the other Inhabitants, and nothing can be more disadvantageous to His Majesty's interests and to those of the Province than to raise or countenance any doubts on this head. So long as the Posts are in our Possession all Persons resident within the same must be considered to all intents and purposes as British Subjects.

9th. I am afraid that no further Steps can be now taken in respect of such Settlers as may turn out not to be bona fide Loyalists.

If they should desert the Colony no material Loss can arise from that circum-

Dundas to Simcoe, vol 2, p 43

stance. The Government at home has by the measure of settling them put an end to all further claims on their part, which was one of the great Objects of it. Such of them as have deceived Government will of course not meet at your hands with any further favor or encouragement; but since they are now there, it will certainly be your duty not to render their situation disagreeable to them if their own Misconduct does not justify it.

10th. Your suggestion respecting Carleton Island is very proper for consideration whenever a final settlement respecting the boundary Line takes place between us and the American States, but I must here again recommend that as few discussions as possible on these Points do take place in the mean time while the Boundary is not settled.

11th. The difficulties which at present stand in the way of establishing a Port in Upper Canada are such as render that Measure impracticable. It was a Subject much discussed, and upon mature Consideration rejected at the time of passing the late Canada Act. As the Lords of the Treasury do not, I conceive, mean to comply with the requisition for a Custom House in Upper Canada (which is the next article but one) for the reasons I have already stated to Lord Dorchester, (17th July, 1793) and which I now inclose, that very circumstance must operate as an insurmountable Objection to the Port requested. At the same time, I see no reason, by the usual means of Correspondents, Partners in Trade, Agents and Factors at Montreal and Quebec, why the export Trade of Upper Canada may not be carried on to any extent. The Superfluity of a Country operates very forcibly in finding an Opening for itself. If, in process of time, the Settlement of the Country should extend itself Westward, the *natural* vent for its produce would appear to be by the Mississippi, the Navigation of which and its Consequences would lead to Discussions very premature in the present moment.

12th. The late Canada Act has rendered the Provinces distinct from & independent of each other both in respect of their Legislative & Judicial Capacities, and in the exercise of them, The King or the Parliament of Great Britain, as the case may be, is by the several restrictions & reservations in that Act, made the Arbiter between them, and it does not occur to me that any more salutary Measure can be adopted for obviating the difficulty here stated. The Legislature of this Country has recently exercised its wisdom in settling the respective Interests of those two Provinces, and it will be better to Act with cheerfulness under the Arrangements which have been made than to speculate upon hasty or premature Alterations.

13th. My Opinion respecting a Custom House in Upper Canada is included in what I have already said on the Subject of a Port in that Province.

14th. The requisition contained in this Article being of a Military Nature, and no reasons being stated to me why the Rank required is necessary, it is not in my Power to give an Opinion respecting it, but I shall certainly lay the same before Lord Amherst¹ in order that His Majesty's pleasure may be taken thereon the moment you shall transmit to me the grounds upon which it is made. In the mean time, I observe that Colonel Gordon of the 26th Regiment, as well as His Royal Highness Prince Edward, is your Senior Officer.

15th. On the Subject of a new Boundary Line I have sufficiently explained myself in my Letters to you. It must be left for future discussion with America.

16th. No Grounds for the Opinion which is stated by this Article as entertained by the Settlers in Upper Canada, were ever held forth or intimated to them by this Government. As the Observations which follow this Article have a strong

¹ The Commander in Chief of the Army.

tendency to hostilities with America, and go rather to meet than to guard against the views of those persons within the United States who may be desirous of involving us in a War with them, I cannot omit expressing my disapprobation of whatever has such a Tendency. It is, as I have already intimated to you in a separate Letter, equally important that you should be as much as possible on your guard against the Views of America, and that at the same time you should studiously avoid whatever may give a pretence for urging on and inflaming the popular Prejudices now existing there against this Country.

17th. The Remarks which follow respecting the Navigation of the Mississippi suggest very useful hints whenever a favourable Opportunity for their more immediate Consideration may occur.

18th. I have already communicated my sentiments to Lord Dorchester on this Subject in writing, and herewith inclose them to you. If the Seamen are hired as Soldiers it will be better, and will go a great way in removing the evils complained of. They will then at all events be immediately Subject to the Mutiny Bill, when acting with any portion of His Majesty's Troops, independent of such regulations as the provincial Legislature may adopt with respect to them, and which will affect them when Acting separately.

19th. It will certainly be of great advantage to His Majesty's Interests in the Provinces to favor the Admission of the Sons of Canadian Gentlemen into the Army, and I communicated with Lord Dorchester previous to His Lordship's departure, and shall certainly keep it in view when any opportunity offers of stating anything specified for His Majesty's Consideration.

20th. I am of opinion that it will be proper to state to Lord Dorchester in what particulars the present mode of constructing the vessels upon the Lakes is defective, and that some other better adapted to the Nature of the Navigation on the Lakes be concerted between His Lordship and you. In doing this it will be necessary that you should be assisted by a Person well skilled in Naval Architecture & Mechanics, and capable of applying his knowledge to local circumstances and to the Service which the Vessels in question are to perform. I propose therefore to mention Captain Schank¹ to His Majesty for that purpose, should he be so situated in respect of Service here, as to allow him to undertake that business.

21. The Naval Articles of War as well as all Military Regulations which regard the Provincial forces, must be made by the respective Provincial Legislatures, and as those Forces, particularly the Naval may serve indiscriminately in either Province the Laws respecting them should be the same in both Provinces.

22d. Every reasonable degree of Encouragement should be given to the Quakers as they are perhaps of all others the most useful to an Infant Colony, but to exempt them from any Taxes would be impolitic if not impracticable, and would sooner or later occasion discontents in His Majesty's other Subjects.

In most instances the Affirmation of a Quaker is equivalent to an Oath. In all judicial proceedings, in respect of his allegiance, and in lieu of all Oaths to be taken to avoid pains & Penalties, the Laws of England respecting the Affirmation of a Quaker, should I am of Opinion meet with a liberal construction but I doubt whether the Oath prescribed by the late Canada Act to be taken by all Members of the Legislative Council and of the Assembly can be dispensed with in favor of any Person, or even if an Affirmation by a Quaker to the same tenor & effect were allowed, whether he could make it. It requires him to "defend His Majesty to the utmost of his Power against all traitorous Conspiracies and Attempts, &c.", this obliges him to personal Service and to use force if Necessary, whereas the Prin-

¹ Captain (afterwards Admiral) John Schank, who had served for several years on the Lakes.

ciples of Persons of his Persuasion extend only to their being obedient to The King & the Government, and not to the bearing of Arms in their defence.

23d. With respect to the Indians it was a principal Object in the proposed plan for settling the Boundary between the Canadas and the American States, to guard against any sale of Lands by the Indians, of the nature mentioned in this Article, by declaring that no part of that space which was to be between the two Countries should ever be occupied or come into the possession of either.

24th. As the Quarter Master General's Department is under the direction of the Commander in Chief, I am of opinion that the circumstances which have been stated relative to that Department in your Province should be communicated to Lord Dorchester. Such a department either in the Person of a Quarter Master General or a Deputy Quarter Master General, as far as I can Judge appears to me to be highly necessary in Upper Canada, and if the Officer who now officiates in that Province is insufficient for the duties of that Station, I have no doubt that His Lordship will agree in soliciting the Appointment of such a Person in that Department as you shall be of Opinion is best qualified for the Charge.

Endorsed:—Drat to Lieut. Govr. Simcoe. October, 1793. (No. 2)

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO J. G. SIMCOE.

QUEBEC, 7th October, 1793.

No. 1.

Sir,

Soon after my arrival Mr. Ogden¹ presented his Complaint of trespass with his Letter to you on that Subject, and your answer which I think very proper. In his way down He perceived a Saw Mill building by Mr. Lorimier near Oswegatchie of which also he greatly complains: I shall send my answer to Mr. Hammond, after proper enquiries. Mr. Ogden talked highly of the Population on the South Side of the Lakes Erie and Ontario; That in the Genesee Country seems scarcely credible, particularly the Plantations belonging to himself and Mr. Morris; That of Mr. Pultney too he thought considerable. The progress of these Settlements requires much attention, and I am to request you will have the goodness to communicate to me every information you may procure of their proceedings and approach to the Lakes.

I am also to desire you will inform me of the Progress of Population and Agriculture on the North side of those Lakes, and how near they approach Toronto; the settling and cultivating the Country round that Post must facilitate and bring forward every advantage its situation can afford, and well deserves encouragement: prior thereto every attempt must be attended with difficulty; in laying out the Town, I should advise the system of wide Streets and squares with open Angles; but more especially that the Ground which Captain Mann recommends for Public Works and Batteries be reserved; all which are marked on Mr. Collins's Plan, a Copy of which I understand you have taken with you. I think it necessary to make these reservations, tho' I cannot approve of any Fortifications being erected there at present.

The several answers given by Major General Clarke concerning Orders and Instructions, which appear to me to decide immediately on Peace or War, I think

¹Samuel Ogden from New Jersey.

discreet and prudent, and there I shall leave that business for the present, but I must request you will be pleased to consider the extensive Frontier of Upper Canada; the number of Posts there already under very peculiar circumstances, together with the inadequate Force for their defence, and you will, I hope, perceive that Augmenting the number of Posts, must increase the demand for Troops; yet, notwithstanding this want of Troops, should Hostilities commence, the War cannot be confined to Upper Canada, and the greatest part of the Forces may eventually be drawn from thence, whatever may be the inconvenience to that Province: I shall therefore recommend, that after securing the established and direct communication as well as circumstances will permit, you keep the rest of the Troops free to Act, when the occasion may require. You will, no doubt, pay great attention to the Militia, and make such arrangements as shall enable them to bring forth their whole strength, and employ it to the best advantage; for it may so happen, that on their own Strength alone they must depend for their defence.

I am, &c.

DORCHESTER.

J. G. S.

Colonel Simcoe.

Endorsed:—In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 20. of the 18th Decr., 1793.

THE PETITION OF JOHN WILLSON

To his Excellency John Graves Simcoe, Esq'r, Lieut. Governor of and Colonel Commanding his Majesty's Forces in Upper Canada,

The humble Petition of John
Willson, late of New Brunswick,

Sheweth

That Your Petitioner being an American Loyalist having acted as a Justice of the Peace for the County of Northumberland in his Majesty's Province of New Brunswick under a Commission issued by his Excellency Thomas Carleton Esq'r, Governor of the said province, removed with several other Families amounting in the whole to the number of Forty Six persons into this province with an Intent to settle themselves before the Winter, but being unavoidably detained several Weeks at Kingston they did not arrive at this place till the Month of October, since which time the greater part of his associates have thro sickness been incapable of Exerting themselves to procure sustenance for their Families and are now reduced to great Distress for Want of provision.

Your Petitioner therefore humbly prays that he may be allowed to draw Rations from his Majesty's Stores for the support of the s'd settlers to an amount not exceeding the Value of £100 upon his entering into an Obligation in the penalty of £200 to replace within the term of three years the same Quantity of Stores as He may find necessary to draw and shall receive for the support of the persons afores'd.

And Your Petitioner shall ever pray, &c.,

JOHN WILLSON

(Certificate)

138 Rations.

I approve of the issue of one hundred & thirty eight Rations,¹ to distressed Loyalists, at the Post of Niagara, 10 Oct'r, '93.

J. GRAVES SIMCOE

For Major Smith
Commandant Niagara

(MSS. of D. W. Smith, Toronto Public Library, Series A, Vol. 10, pp. 441, 455.)

PROCEEDINGS OF A COUNCIL HELD AT BUFFALOE CREEK,
10th OCTOBER, 1793.

Present

Lt. Col. Butler, Dy Agent for Indian Affairs.

Israel Chapin, Esqr. Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the United States,
with the

Chiefs of the Six Nations.

After the usual compliments had passed Captain Brant addressed them as follows.

Brothers,

You and the King our Father, and you our Brothers of the United States, attend to what we have to say, we will now explain to you the material point upon which we have called you together and requested your attendance at this Council. and which has not been fully explained to you before. We wish to act openly that the world may judge of our proceedings.

Brothers,

It is unnecessary to repeat what passed at the Great Council at the Miami Rapids, as you are already acquainted therewith, we shall therefore point out the cause of our parting from that meeting in the manner we did.

Brothers,

When the first Deputation from the Confederate Indians met the Commissioners of the United States, every thing seemed to promise a friendly termination of the Treaty, but before their return to the Council Fire, messengers from the Creek Indians had arrived there and brought authentic information of the White People having encroached upon that part of the Confederacy. This intelligence at once gave a change to the face of our proceedings, and probably was the sole cause of the abrupt termination of the negociation for peace. Thus you see that claims upon our lands have been, and still continue to be the cause of the war.

Brothers,

About five years ago we agreed upon a line of Demarkation, with the United States, which you know to be the Muskingum, and notwithstanding the various accidents that have occurred since, we will still adhere to that Boundary.

Brothers,

We think the United States will agree to that Line, which will shew that they act with that sincerity & justice, they always profess for the Indians. Should they

¹ A receipt for the 138 Rations, signed by John Willson, follows this memo. in the MS. collection.

agree to this, we sincerely hope that Peace will still take place, and we think that the weight of our branch of the Confederacy will be able to accomplish Peace upon the reasonable line we have just mentioned, and we should be exceedingly sorry to find that this proposal should not be generally accepted by the Confederacy, if it is rejected, We must be involved in trouble in our own Country.*

Brothers,

We will now proceed to explain the line upon which we hope peace will be made, we know that the Lands along the Ohio are claimed by the Indians, but we propose to give up such part of these Lands, as are actually settled and improved, which settlements are to be circumscribed by a line drawn round them, and no further claims to be admitted beyond such line.

N.B. The remainder of this Boundary to be explained by General Chapin, for which purpose it is the general wish of the Six Nations that General Chapin will himself proceed with this Speech to Congress.

A Belt Black & White Wampum.

PROPOSED BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND AMERICAN INDIANS.

The Line proposed by the Six Nations & Lake Indians, Ottawas, Chippewas, Poutewatamies, &c. as the Boundary between the United States and American Indians and given in public Council held at Buffaloe Creek to be by him transmitted to Congress.

To begin where the Ohio falls into the Mississippi, to follow the course of the Ohio to the Muskingum, to ascend that River up its most easternmost Fork to a Lake at its Head, the carrying Place between the River & the Cayahoga, & from thence to follow a direct course as marked upon Hutchin's map, till it strikes the old Pennsylvania Line, proceeding easterly on that till it is intersected by a line running Southerly, to Chenesee River, following that Line to the Forks of the Chenesee River, and down the Chenesee River till it falls into Lake Ontario.

To shew the willingness of the Indian Nations to accede to a just & honorable peace they agree to except from this Boundary all places which are actually occupied, with a competent space for the accomodation of the present Settlers.

They expect that no Reserves as hitherto demanded be made by the United States within this Boundary such as Presqu'Isle, Sandusky, the Miamis Towns, &c., &c., &c.

Captain Brant declined all further meetings unless this Boundary was agreed to, for the purpose of Negotiation.

Mr. Sheehan of the Indian Department informed Colonel Simcoe that the *Corn Planter* and *New Arrow* were the persons who pointed out this Boundary.

This Line was marked upon Hutchin's Map,¹ the explanation of it was read to Capt. Brant who said it was just.

J.G.S.

* Capt. Brant, in conversation with Lt. Govr. Simcoe, explained this passage by saying: "It was meant that they must be forced to leave their country." J. G. S.

¹ Thomas Hutchins, 1730-89, ensign in rangers, 1746; captain and paymaster, 60th Royal American Regiment, 1758-64; arrested in London, England, for treasonable correspondence, 1777; appointed Geographer General of the United States, 1785. He published a number of maps and topographical works.

FROM GEORGE HAMMOND TO LORD GRENVILLE.

Private.

LANSDOWNE, near PHILADELPHIA, October 12, 1793.

The disorder now raging in Philadelphia is, I believe, the most malignant in its nature, and the most extensive in its effect, of any with which the human race has ever been afflicted in any country. In the course of the last six weeks at least three thousand persons have died in Philadelphia, and the physicians appear, as yet, to be totally unacquainted either with the nature of the disease, or with the means of curing it. In one point they appear pretty well agreed, that it is not imported, but generated in the city. Of my family that remained in town, I have lost my principal servant, and two others are at this moment dead or at the point of death. Happily and unaccountably this disorder does not seem to spread in the country, and I hope that the distance (five miles) at which my wife and myself are from Philadelphia will effectually protect us from the danger of the contagion.

The person¹ to whom your Lordship alludes (in your Letter of July 25) is the gentleman to whom, in my despatch No. 19, I have represented myself as so considerably indebted. To his attention alone have I owed my knowledge of Mr. Genet's designs, and to his zeal, activity (ever at the hazard of his personal safety) and to his present (I trust sincere) attachment to the cause of order and good government, are in a great measure to be ascribed those impediments which, for the space of five weeks in the port of New York, detained the French ships of war in a state of complete impotence as to any extended operations.

(Historical Manuscripts Commission, Dropmore Papers, Vol. II, pp. 443-4.)

FROM RICHARD CARTWRIGHT TO ISAAC TODD.

KINGSTON, Oct. 14th, 1793.

Dear Sir,

Your request, and the flattering reception you have given my former letter, induces me to attempt to give you some further account of the public business of the Province. The inclosed paper, containing the titles of the Bills passed during the second session of our Legislature, will show that it has not been an idle one. Some of the Acts are very well calculated for arranging the police of the country, and the one authorizing the Lieutenant Governor to appoint Commissioners is intended as a means of amicably adjusting with the Lower Province every matter of revenue in which both may be concerned. So far is very well. But, as I foresaw, the Custom House Bill was again revived and again rejected, and there are so many private views blended with this measure, that it will not be easily relinquished by its partisans. For instance, now that the members of the Lower House are to have ten shillings per diem, to be paid by their respective Counties, during their attendance, the Speaker thinks he ought to have a handsome salary; and how is the money to be raised without exciting public clamour? Besides, two or three appointments in this department, with a good salary annexed, would afford a very comfortable

¹M. de Noailles.

provision for some of the members; and, for so young a country, I assure you, we are beginning to have a wonderful acuteness in making discoveries of this kind. The Marriage Act was necessary, and is useful as far as it goes, but it is defective in omitting to make provision for the marriages of Dissenters; and every effort will be made at the next meeting of the Legislature to put this business on a more liberal footing. Amendments to that effect were only withdrawn on the most positive assurances that representations would be made at home relative to the propriety of relaxing in this particular. Indeed, the caution with which every thing relative to the Church or Dissenters is guarded in the Act of Parliament which establishes our constitution, and the zeal and tenaciousness of the Executive Government in this country on this head, has always astonished me. When a particular system has been long adopted and acted upon, some evil may perhaps result from a change, although in its principles it may be neither liberal nor just, and at all events there is the bugbear innovation to guard the abuse; but to make this abuse an essential principle, and where a new Government is to be formed, as in the present case, among a people composed of every religious denomination, and nineteen-twentieths of whom are of persuasions different from the Church of England to attempt to give that Church the same exclusive political advantages that it possesses in Great Britain, and which are even there the cause of so much clamour, appears to me to be as impolitic as it is unjust. In the present time one would expect better things from Ministers. That these remarks may not be imputed to prejudice, I think it necessary to mention that I am one of the small number of churchmen in the country. For my part, I assure you I begin to be disgusted with politics. On the division of the Province, as we had no previous establishments in our way, I fondly imagined that we were to sit down cordially together to form regulations solely for the public good; but a little experience convinced me that those were the visions of a novice, and I found our Executive Government disposed to calculate their measures as much with a view to patronage and private endowment as the prosperity of the province. In this I doubt not they will be sufficiently successful, from the interested complaisance of some of our legislators, and the ignorance of more, who are incapable of foreseeing the consequences of their concessions. But such policy is as shortsighted as it is illiberal; and however little it may be noticed at present, if persisted in and pushed very far will unquestionably be sowing the seeds of civil discord, and perhaps laying the foundations of future revolutions. For though almost everybody is now too much taken up with providing the means of subsistence to have leisure for canvassing public measures, yet as we advance in population and improvement they will become objects of more general attention, and in sound policy ought to be so calculated as not to furnish cause of disgust to the real patriot, or pretext for clamour to the pretended one. In the course of our proceedings I have found how completely the spirit of that part of the Act might be evaded which professes to make the Legislative Council entirely independent, by giving the members their seats for life. It is only to compose the majority of it—as has in fact been done—of Executive Councillors and officers of the Government dependent for their salaries on the good pleasure of the Governor. The Governor is at present at Toronto, where he has laid out a town plot, which he has called York, and where I am told he intends to pass the winter in his canvas house, for there is yet no other built, nor preparations for any; his regiment is also to hut themselves there.

This situation for a capital unites many advantages, as it will contribute to the more speedy settling of the vacant lands on both sides of it, and be a means of sooner uniting the settlements above the Bay of Kenty and below the head of

Lake Ontario, and also as it lays at the entrance of a communication into Lake Huron by Lake La Claye, which may bye-and-bye be found practicable and useful. But, notwithstanding this, he does not scruple to say that he has his eye still fixed on the River Tranche; and though he may for awhile put up with the Town of York and the River Humber, he seems to be satisfied with nothing less than another Thames and a second London. You will smile perhaps when I tell you that even at York a town lot is to be granted in the front street only on condition that you shall build a house of not less than forty-seven feet front, two stories high, and after a certain order of architecture. In the second street they may be somewhat less in front, but the two stories and the mode of architecture are indispensable; and it is only in the back streets and alleys that the tinkers and tailors will be allowed to consult their taste and circumstances in the structure of their habitations, upon lots of one-tenth of an acre. Seriously, our good Governor is a little wild in his projects, and seems to imagine that he can in two or three years put the country into a situation that it is impossible it can arrive at in a century; and I fear that a great deal of expence will by this means be thrown away, which, under the management of a less sanguine temper, would have been productive of solid benefit to the colony. For example, how useful might the Rangers have been, had they been employed on the service for which they were ostensibly raised, of opening roads and building bridges between the different settled parts of the country; but this is a business that the inhabitants are left to do of themselves as well as they can, and the only piece of work of this kind that these folks, who were "to level mountains and make valleys rise," have been employed in at all, is in cutting a road from the head of Lake Ontario to the River Tranche, where there is not a single inhabitant, and in this duty there is at present a captain and one hundred men. But while I am thus free in my strictures, I must also say that the Governor merits very great praise for his indefatigable industry in exploring in person the communication between the different parts of the country. Last winter he went to Detroit on snow shoes; early this spring he coasted the Lake from Niagara to Toronto; he has now gone to look into Lake Huron by the way of Lake La Claye, and next winter we expect a visit from him here by way of the Bay of Kenty. You will, before now, have been informed that the American Commissioners have failed in the purpose of their embassy to make peace with the Indians, who would not agree to meet them at all, unless they would previously consent to make the River Ohio the boundary between them and the United States. This is much to be regretted, from motives of humanity as well as the political consequences that may attend it, by making the Government of the States more urgent for the delivery of the posts, in order to overawe the Indians, and whenever this happens it will make a material change in the situation of the two Canadas, certainly not to their advantage.

(From the Life and Letters of the Hon. Richard Cartwright, pp. 51-6.)

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO J. G. SIMCOE.

QUEBEC, 17th October, 1793.

Sir,

Major General Clarke has communicated to me your letter of the 19th of last month, with its enclosures. Extracts sent to Lt. Col. England, 6th Decr. The observations which you make on the extortions the Officers and Seamen are subjected to from the present mode of payment, is well worthy of attention, and I shall

be glad to have a particular report of their nature and extent. You will therefore be pleased to direct the Senior Officers on each of the Lakes to state fully to you the abuses with their Opinion of the proper Mode to prevent them in future, and should the Troops be liable to these extortions, the Officers commanding Corps should likewise be called upon to give a similar statement, that the evil may be amply set forth, more effectually to obviate these and all other practices injurious to the Military Departments, and these Reports you will transmit to me with such Observations as you may think the case may require.

All this inspection and control belongs of course to you, as the Officer commanding the Troops in Upper Canada, and your Situation as such not being liable to fluctuate as formerly, I consider as of no small advantage to the King's Service. What Military Authority a Civil Lieutenant Governor might have or the Eldest Counsellor, who eventually came to the Command of the Province is defined by the King's Regulations, and I do not see how those Regulations can be altered without detriment to His Service.

I am with regard, &c.

DORCHESTER.

Colonel Simcoe.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

No. 19.

UPPER CANADA, YORK,
Octr. 19th, 1793.

Sir,

I do myself the honor of acquainting you that I am returned from exploring the Communications between this Place and Lake Huron.

I have ascertained by a Route hitherto unknown but to some Indian Hunters, that there is an easy Portage between York and the Waters which fall into Lake Huron of not more than thirty miles in extent, and through a Country perfectly calculated for agricultural Purposes.—The Communication then proceeds to a narrow but deep River, into a small Lake called by the Indians Shan. y.ong, and by the French Aux Claies, for the space of Forty Miles to a portage of five miles: which I am credibly informed, may easily be made practicable, to a River that without any Material Rapids flows into Matchadash, now Gloucester Bay—the route by land without making use of this River is computed to be less than seventeen miles.—I passed down the River, by which the Waters of the Lake Shan. y. ong empty themselves into Gloucester Bay, and found a few Portages & Rapids which are capable, if necessary of being much improved & surmounted without difficulty in large Canoes; such as are used in carrying on the internal trade from Montreal to Lake Superior. On my arrival at Gloucester Bay, I proceeded without delay to inspect the Harbour of *Pennatangashene* which lays in its entrance.

A gale of wind prevented my perfectly attaining this Object, but under the shelter of the Islands I went sufficiently close to satisfy myself, The Engineer and Surveyor, who accompanied me, that it was a safe and commodious Harbour, and capable of containing Vessels of as great Burthen as can be supposed to sail upon Lake Huron. It also appeared to us that there were many good roadsteads or Havens on the Southern side of Gloucester Bay.

The wind continuing, & it being hazardous to remain at Gloucester Bay as our Provisions began to fail I returned with difficulty to York.

I have directed the Surveyor early in the next Spring to ascertain the precise distance of the several Routs which I have done myself the honor of detailing to you, and hope to compleat the Military Street or Road the ensuing Autumn—The im-

portance of this Communication is evident. The Merchant will probably supply by this Rout those heavy Commodities which are necessary in the North West trade; and this part of Upper Canada will find another vent for its flour & by rivalling the Settlements near Detroit in that Article at the mart of Michillimackinac will occasion the King's Garrisons to be furnished at a cheaper rate. The Merchants & Traders have already turn'd their Eyes to this communication, & obtained Lots in the Town of York upon speculation, this will be greatly encreased, when it shall be fully understood that it is much more easy of access than uniform Reports and frequent Enquiries had given room to imagine.

In a Military point of view, in five days Troops can be passed from Gloucester Bay to York;—In a foreign one, It must be a more practicable rout at all Seasons to Lake Superior than the Atlantic States, and particularly New York can ever arrive at. I take this opportunity, Sir, of enclosing a very accurate *Sketch* of this Communication, And a slight one of the Province comprehending the establishment I have proposed.

Having at a very early period of my Life formed an opinion of the immense importance which the Possession of the Isthmus between the Lakes Ontario, Erie and Huron must be of to the King and British Nation in the growing population and consequence of North America, and having been confirmed in this Opinion by the revolt of the Atlantic Colonies, I cannot but be sensibly gratified, that the disposition of particular Towns and communications which from enquiry & consideration, I apprehended to be necessary to give Speedy & effectual Stability to the Colony, have now appeared to my own conviction from personal investigation, of all the Consequence which I had attributed to such an Arrangement.

It remains for me only to know, Sir, your Resolution whether I shall be enabled to occupy them to their utmost extent, or in submission to circumstances remain in my present station.

The immediate occupation of London &c., &c., I am convinced would be for the public benefit, the remaining at York of personal convenience to the Officers of the Government.

But in any case I must hope that the *Indian* department, that of the *Commissaries* and that of the *Shipping* may be considered as under the management of this Government, subject to the controul of the Commander in Chief, but not through any Channel but that of the Lieutenant Governor of this Province. In various communications I have detailed the necessity of such a measure, which I conceive most materially involves the prosperity of the Inhabitants of this Province, the Comfort of those who administer its Government, and ultimately the Power and Wealth of Great Britain.

I have the honor to be with the most perfect Respect,

Sir,

Your most Obt.
& most humble Servt.

J. G. SIMCOE.

The Rt. Honble Henry Dundas
One of His Majesty's principal
Secretarys of State, &c., &c., &c.,
Endorsed: Upr. Canada, York.

19th Octr. 1793.

R. 27th Jany 1794.

Ansd.

No. /9.

Two charts transmitted herewith.

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO FRANCIS LE MAISTRE.

YORK, Octr. 20, 1793.

Sir,

The undermentioned extracts of letters from Lieut. Schoedde, Commanding at Fort Ontario,¹ to me of the 11 and 25 last September, I have the honor to forward for the Commander in Chief's information, by order of His Excy, Col. Simcoe.

"Fort Ontario, Sep. 11, 1793. On the night of the 4 and 5 inst. two boats laden with salt attempted to pass me, notwithstanding being fired at by small arms and great guns, and actually did pass. I was obliged to man a boat, which overtook it after a long chase and brought it back—the other was seized a little above the fort."

"25 Sep. 1793. I beg leave to say that on my part I have shewn the settlers such attention and civility as I conceived not to militate against my duty; but you can hardly form any judgment what kind of people they are in general; they are the scum of the States. One man, whose name is Valkenburg, already mentioned to you before, is the only decent man among them, and he is entirely in my interest. He has on different occasions used persuasion with the deserters to return, hitherto ineffectually, and now I will try whether pecuniary advantage will persuade him to greater exertions. Through his means, I have been able to hinder some people, who had marked out their settlements within 2½ miles from the Fort, from establishing themselves. I have likewise prevented their settling on the Lake without coming to extremities, by propagating through him, that in the present Indian War it was a happy circumstance for the settlers to have Ontario in the British Possession, as it would prevent any hostile Indians from passing, at the same time it was the only safe place through which they could dispose of their produce and receive flour in return. That as I was well furnished with intelligence, I could with pleasure give them information of any approaching danger, that being thus friendly disposed towards them, I expected on their part, that they would confine their nearer approach of settling to the limits of 8 Mile Creek. This report has had such an effect upon them, that they have retired within the prescribed limits. As I do not conceive that the Indians will bend their course this way, I hope His Excy. will not take amiss the propagation of this report, which has got rid of very disagreeable neighbours. This, however, can only be a temporary expedient, and in a short time they will approach to cannon shot distance. How the Garrison is to procure wood will be difficult to say, unless purchased from them."

I am to add that H. E. Lieut. Governor Simcoe hopes the custom house boat with a gun, which is nearly finished at Niagara, and will proceed to Fort Ontario early in the Spring, will prevent any similar attempts to those alluded to in Lieut. Schoedde's letter. I have been directed to convey H. Excy's approbation of Captain Schoedde's conduct upon this occasion, and at the same time to observe that His Excellency is happy no accident happened from the necessity he was under of firing at the boats with smuggled goods.

I am, &c.,

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

F. Le Maistre, Esq.
Military Secretary.

¹ At Oswego.

FROM JAMES BABY TO J. G. SIMCOE.

His Excellency John Graves Simcoe, Esquire, Governor of Upper Canada, &c., &c., &c.

I would have transmitted long before now to Your Excellency the arrangement I propose respecting the Militia had I been furnished with the Bill concerning it. Having no hopes of receiving it for the present, I was going to send down the plan I meant to lay before your Excellency, for approbation, had not several difficulties occurred, so as not to let it appear in so perfect a state, as I would wish, owing to the want of the Act. Thinking that no inconvenience could arise by deferring a little more, I hope your Excellency will not attribute to any neglect on my part my not transmitting it at present. I expect in the mean time to be more enabled to recommend some few more officers yet wanting for some remote Companies, such as at River La Tranche, River Huron, and for a second company at River Raisin, which was also an obstacle in my way, not being at present acquainted with the people best qualified in those quarters to receive commissions.

I should have sent this some time ago had I not known of Your Excellency's excursion to Lake Huron, from which I hope Your Excellency is returned in perfect health. I am happy to be able to inform Your Excellency that the Militia in the County of Kent consists of near Seven Hundred men fit to bear arms, which I presume exceeds materially the return made for that part of the late district of Hesse.

Should Your Excellency find that I ought to have sent what I have done I will send it as soon as I shall hear Your Excellency's desire respecting the matter.

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect,
Your Excellency's
most obedient and humble servant.

J. BABY.

DETROIT, 24th October, 1793.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTER OF E. B. LITTLEHALES TO
MAJOR SMITH.

YORK, 25th October, 1793.

Sir:

I have just received His Excellency Lieut. Governor Simcoe's Orders to communicate to you that all the Loyalists under Mr. Wilson's superintendence, have permission, if they please, to come to this place by the first opportunity:— . . .

. . . Whenever any Loyalists, or persons who may have business with His Excellency at this place, are recommended by the Chief Justice, you will be pleased to order them a passage in any of the King's Vessels free of expence, or of course, any other people that you may chuse should receive a passage upon similar terms.

His Excellency has referred Mr. Wilson, and his associates to the Chief Justice, and any arrangement he may think proper to make in the distribution of provision to these people, I am to request, you will be so good to cause to be carried into

execution and His Excellency will sanction such arrangement with an order to you in the regular manner.

I am,
Sir,
with great regard
Your most obedient and
very humble serv't

Major Smith
5th Reg't &ca
Niagara

E. B. LITTLEHALES

(MSS. of D. W. Smith, Toronto Public Library, Series A, Vol. 10, pp. 447-9.)

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO D. W. SMITH.

YORK, 27th October, 1793

Sir:

The undermentioned extract of a letter, from His Excellency Lieut. Governor Simcoe, to Messrs Desjardins and La Corne, French Missionaries, I have the honor to transmit to you, agreeably to His Excellency's instructions; and am, Sir,

Your most obedient and very
humble Ser't

E. B. LITTLEHALES

D. W. Smith, Esq'r,
Acting Surveyor General

(Extract)

"The Executive Council of this Country has agreed with me to reserve for the French Emigrants, a Township in the vicinity of Burlington Bay; this station, I selected, as considering it united the most desirable requisites for a general settlement of any part of the Province, which was personally known to me, for such French Gentlemen as might be likely to emigrate in a body."

(MSS. of D. W. Smith, Toronto Public Library, Series A, Vol. 8, pp. 57-8.)

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

October 29th, 1793, DETROIT.

Sir,

I had the honor of writing to you on the 23rd inst., when I enclosed copies of two letters I received from Colonel McKee, and herewith send Your Excellency a copy of a letter I received from him yesterday morning by express. You will perceive it was dated the 22d and from my not hearing from him since, I imagine that the Army of the United States do not advance so very rapidly as the intelligence

communicated to him mentions. Indeed it is natural to suppose that they must occasionally delay to establish Posts to support their chain of communication.

The Colonel has made a requisition to his assistant here for some articles which I fortunately anticipated, and which I suppose were with him long before his requisition reached this Post.

I this morning communicated the intelligence I received from Colonel McKee to the Honorable Mr. Baby, as Lieutenant of the County, with a view that some attempt may be made to form the Militia in the event of their service being required. This became particularly necessary as I know there are jealousies, and that some of the Officers who formerly held commissions do not mean to serve any longer. In the course of our conversation on the subject I perceived that he conceives from the late Militia Act that he is impowered to act separately and not under the control of the Commandant of the Post. As I never saw the Act, I was of course very delicate on the subject, though it strikes me that there can be but one Commanding Officer for Troops acting under the same Government and at the same Post. My object is to carry on the King's Service while I remain here as smoothly as possible, and I really am by no means ambitious to usurp a Command that the laws of the Country do not entitle me to. Therefore to be correct I should be glad upon this occasion as well as on every other that may occur in my situation to receive Your Excellency's instructions.

In the present state of the Militia, little indeed is to be expected from them. What may be done by exertions if made use of time may perhaps shew.

I have the honor to be

Your Excellency's

most obedient and very humble servant.

R. G. ENGLAND.

I forward a letter from Colonel McKee to Your Excellency.

His Excellency

Lieutenant Governor Simcoe, &c., &c., &c.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

YORK October 30th, 1793.

Sir,

I have very great pleasure in representing to you the very great Assistance I have from time to time derived from Lt. Givens whom you honored with a recommendation to my notice. I employed this Young Gentleman in my communications with Mr. Hammond, as you desired till such times as being known his Life was endangered by a drunken Indian, from which he extricated himself by great presence of mind.

Lt. Givens' perfect knowledge of the Indian Language used in this part of the Province, and for which there is no *Interpreter*, has lately been of essential service to me in enabling me to carry into effect my personal Investigations of the Country, and should any arrangement take place in the Indian Department, I shall gladly avail myself of his Services—as the pay of Lieutenant is insufficient to support any extra expences in this Country, I have thought it right to remunerate this Gentle-

man for such extraordinary Services as he has performed or undergone for the public Advantage, & which will appear in the next account of this Province.

I have the honor to be with great Respect, Sir,
Your most obliged & Obt Servant.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Addressed:—Private

To

The Rt Honble

Henry Dundas, &c., &c.

Endorsed: York, 30th Octr. 1793.

Lt. Govr. Simcoe.

R. 27th Jany, 1794.

Ansd.

Private.

FROM ROBERT WOOLSEY TO JOHN EDWARDS.

DETROIT, November 2, 1793.

Dear Edwards.

Inclosed you have several letters which I beg you will be so kind to deliver according to their respective directions and those for St. Denis you'll keep until you find an opportunity of sending them for I would by no means put my friends to any expence. There is likewise one for yourself of the thirteenth Ultimo in which I express'd my doubts of the Americans turning out this season but it is but too true that they are only at three days march from this and there arrived yesterday a batteaux load of goods from a small Creek call'd the Glaisse that emtys itself in the Miami River and brought accounts that the traders had remov'd to the foot of the Rapids, as the enemy was every day drawing nigh. However if they are not more carefull than they have been they will all be cut off before they get here for the Indians annoy them much on their march and kill'd sixty men and took forty Horses loaded with Goods. The Americans must certainly be a restless set of People for no sooner is one army destroyed than another springs up in its place. Remember me to Driscal.

Farewell,

Yours Affectionately.

ROBT. WOOLSEY, Jr.

*Endorsed:—Mr. John Edwards, at Mr. Thomas Grant's, Merchant, Quebec,
Nov. 2, 1793. Recd. Dec. 3rd, 1793.*

FROM GEORGE DAVISON TO J. G. SIMCOE.

Received December 11th.
SKENESBORO,¹ Tuesday, 5th November, 1793.

Sir:—

I must rely on your indulgence for excusing a very brief acknowledgment of the communications you favoured me with under date York, October 18th and 19th which I will not fail to submit a more suitable answer to when opportunity will permit. I feel myself extremely obliged by the flattering testimony of your confidence in your private letter. My brother is under much obligation for what you express of him. I will assure him of that honor, *viva voce*, I hope in 5 weeks being now determined to go over from New York or other American Port after trying the effect of some mineral waters in the neighbourhood of Albany. In the purpose of addressing you again before I leave this Continent I have only to hope your views of encouraging the raising of Pork in Upper Canada may be promoted by the experiment of a purchase which I have ordered of from 100 to 500 barrels of 208 lbs. each, to be concluded with Mr. Cartwright. I had indeed anticipated your dispatch so far as to agree positively for the small quantity of 100 barrels and I should hope the full quantity of 500 will be obtained.

In haste I have the honor to be with high respect, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. DAVISON.

(Unaddressed.)

FROM ALEXANDER DAVISON TO J. G. SIMCOE.

Per Packet.

HARPER STREET, 7th November, 1793.

Sir,—

The Lords Commissioners of the Treasury have done me the honor to appoint me their agent for providing supplies of provisions for His Majesty's forces in North America, to be ready to issue on the 17th March, and I respectfully acquaint Your Excellency that the proper quantity for your Province will be shipped or provided accordingly. Permit me to assure you that together with unremitting regard to that economy which is necessary, I shall make it my first and constant attention to provide the different denominations of provisions of the best quality, satisfied that it is not less the wish of Government than it will be grateful to me to feed the King's soldiers well particularly those employed in foreign service, whose other comforts and resources are less likely to compensate for any want of this kind. It is impossible to prevent abuse and disappointments in shipments, particularly provisions and that from Ireland, but I venture to assure Your Excellency that no care and precaution within my power shall be omitted to guard against them. It is a business where the exertion of both head and heart is called upon. My experience in it

¹ Now Whitehall, N.Y.

has been extensive, and I hope has enabled me to execute this business with equal advantage to the public as satisfaction to myself. I shall be happy to be favored with your observations on the quality of provisions, especially the Irish, in which we have formerly been cruelly deceived to the great disappointment of the service and heavy loss to the Contractors.

It is disgraceful to Lower Canada, where such plenty prevails and the hogs are numberless, that it has not been able to furnish good pork enough for 4 or 5,000 men. It were a great saving to Government and advantageous to me, if the people of your Government could fall on the way of making good pork. The profit of the Province and the Public benefit would both be promoted by that improvement.

Any ideas you will honor me with on this subject or any other, to benefit the King's service, which you are so zealous to promote, I shall consider myself highly obliged by.

Knowing how much you are the soldiers' friend, and so warmly interested in promoting the improvement of Upper Canada, Government would no doubt have perfect respect and attention to any future proposal coming from you. I do not presume to guess what time any supplies may be expected to be derived, not knowing the state or capability of the country.

I think it my duty to submit this idea to your better judgment, and that it may be an object deserving Your Excellency's consideration what saving it would be to the Government to be exempt from the charge of Irish provisions to Upper Canada, and what encouragement it might give to your infant settlement, if this expense were converted to act as a Bounty on the raising and curing provisions within the province.

In the first years though the prices might be high, or the quality not perfect, these evils however might be compensated and every year would be less and less; the provisions in Ireland will on the other hand in all probability be dearer and dearer.

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect, Sir,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

ALEXANDER DAVISON.

His Excellency Governor Simcoe.

Upper Canada.

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO C. ROBINSON.

YORK, Novr. 7, 1793.

Sir,

It is His Excellency the Lieut. Governor's instructions that you take the earliest opportunity of consulting the Officer commanding the King's Troops at Kingston, and the Senior Officer of the Naval Department, upon the state of the timber on the several Islands in the vicinity of that place, and that you endeavour to find out, where it will be best to reserve such timber as may be hereafter requisite for His Majesty's Service, in order, that when applications are made to His Excellency for permission to cut wood for the construction of vessels to navigate Lake Ontario, His Excy. may be informed where it would be most advisable to grant indulgences to merchants and others for this purpose.

When you have procured all the information possible upon this Subject, you will be pleased to report to me, that I may communicate the same to His Excy.

I am, &c.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

C. Robinson, Esq.¹
Surveyor, Woods & Forests.

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO D. W. SMITH.

YORK, Novr. 9, 1793.

Sir,

His Excellency the Lieut. Governor wishes you would in the course of the winter execute the following plans:

The River Thames, exactly the same as the plan lately transmitted by you.

The Survey of Long Point, and that of Lake Simcoe, of which Lieut. Pilkington will be so good as to lend you a copy of Mr. Aitkin's sketch.²

I am to request that in future, you will be pleased to instruct the Deputy Surveyors of this Province to keep Meteorological Journals, conformable to the one in the enclosed Gentleman's Magazine, such parts being omitted as are inapplicable to this country, and such remarks added as in your judgment may be useful, and to desire they will transmit them to you once in three months.

When those gentlemen are not stationary, it cannot be expected that they will be able to fill up all the columns, but they are to be directed to notice as many of them as may be practicable.

You will please to forward a fair copy of these Journals to the Lieut. Governor when you have received them.

I have the honor to be, &c.

E. B. Littlehales.

D. W. Smith, Esq.
Acting Surveyor General.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

YORK, UPPER CANADA, NOV. 10th, 1793.

Sir,

Since the closure of my dispatch No. 19, I have had much conversation with Captain Brant and Colonel Butler on the Subject of the failure of the late Treaty. I am sorry to learn that the Lake Indians, namely the Ottawas, Poutawatomes

¹ Christopher Robinson, born in Virginia, a grandson of John Robinson, a President of that Province; educated at William and Mary College at Williamsburg; went to New York on the outbreak of the rebellion and obtained a commission in the Loyal American Regiment, commanded by his kinsman Beverley Robinson; at the end of the war settled in Nova Scotia where he had received a grant of land; removed to Upper Canada and was appointed Surveyor of Woods and Forests. He represented Addington and Ontario in the Legislative Assembly from the election of 1796 until his death in 1798. Chief Justice Sir John Beverley Robinson was his son.

² Alexander Aitkin had been a deputy surveyor for the district of Mecklenburg; he resided at Kingston, where he died about 1830.

& Chippawas have seceded from the Confederacy and, together with the Six Nations have transmitted to Congress proposals relinquishing the Ohio Boundary as stipulated by the Confederacy & claiming that of the Muskingum as delivered to Lord Dorchester in August, 1791, with some alterations rather advantageous to the British Interests.

Captain Brant was full of complaints against Colonel McKee, but which I have reason to believe are without any just grounds, and I suspect that the principle of disunion arose from this Chieftain. It does not appear that He expects that the United States will agree to this Second Boundary; and on my urging him to state what were his Sentiments should such be the case, his Answer was "that should the Boundary be refused the Confederacy would be again united—that he knew The Poutewatomies of St. Joseph had determined to obtain Peace at any rate, and that He thought of siding with them in not absolutely insisting upon the Ohio as the Boundary, as it might be the means of reconciling them to the general Interests." I have reason to believe that this artful Chieftain has made some such promise to the People of the States; He appears to be much agitated and dissatisfied with the prospect of Indian Affairs: However an event he did not expect has taken place, and the actual advance of General Wayne's Army which I have just received information of from Colonel England & Colonel McKee will probably be productive of decisive events.

What will be the conduct of the Six Nations it is impossible to ascertain;—On the one hand they must lose their present possessions within the States should they take up Arms; On the other, should they suffer their Neighbouring Tribes to be crushed, they are sensible they can only protract their own destruction. The Lake Indians within the Boundary of the United States will more immediately perceive the consequence should the Shawanoes & Delawares who are migratory Tribes, quit the Country, as they will inevitably lose their Territory beyond the Lakes.

Whether in ballancing between these evils, these Tribes shall incline to act vigorously against the States, or to remain pacific or neuter, probably will depend upon the success of Mr. Wayne's inroad.

If the neutrality of the Six Nations should secure Presque Isle from being garrisoned It might possibly be more beneficial to the Confederacy than their open assistance; but I understand that the Pennsylvanians claim that important Post, tho' on what pretension I am ignorant.

The variety of views that agitate the mind of Brant are to me apparent in his conversation, I have taken great care that He shall not find any reason for his defection from the British Interests in my Conduct tho' he has certainly taken very unjustifiable liberties to misrepresent the proceedings of this Government to the Agents of the United States, with the *professed* views of engaging Great Britain in a War, in which he constantly asserts she ought to assist the Indians.

I am as you may suppose, Sir, anxious for the important event of this Winter; but I have so long anticipated its consequences that I can add nothing further upon the Subject, than that the Establishments, the Military & Civil Posts, & the Force which I have mentioned to you as necessary for the Safeguard & Protection of this Province, the *Bulwark* of British America, derive additional strength from the necessity of awing the different Indian Nations who shall reside within the King's Dominions, from an Attempt on the Settlements, & of combining the Force & increasing & regulating that attachment which may one day be essentially neces-

sary to the Interest of His Majesty and the British Empire. I have the Honor to be with the most perfect Respect, Sir,

Your most Obedient, & most humble St.

J. G. SIMCOE.

The Right Honble. Henry Dundas

One of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, &c., &c., &c.

Endorsed:—York, Upr. Canada. 10th Novr. 1793. Lt. Govr. Simcoe. R. 27th Jany, 1794. Ansd.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

YORK, Novr. 10, 1793.

My Lord,

Your Lordship will have been so fully apprised of the state of affairs relative to the Indian Nations, by the various dispatches of Mr. Hammond, and from the communications which have been from time to time made to His Excellency General Clarke, that it would be unnecessary in me to recapitulate them.

The enclosed letters which I received on the 9th of this month from Colonel England and Mr. McKee will inform your Lordship of the rapid advance of General Wayne's Army into the Indian Country.

Colonel Butler and Captain Brant, the Mohawk Chief, have been lately at this place, and I have endeavoured by the various conversations which I have held with them, by the confidential Communications of Col. McKee, and the opinions of such Officers, as attended at the assemblage of the Indians, to form a general Idea of the present critical Situation of the Indian Nations, for Your Lordship's Information. It will appear to Your Lordship in Col. McKee's report of the 22 Augt., that he had exerted himself to unite the Indian Nations to adopt the Muskingum Boundary as delineated to Your Lordship at Quebec in Augt. 1791, but that his endeavour was ineffectual. The Confederacy persevered in demanding that of the Ohio, which they had intimated to Mr. Washington by the Six Nations in their Speech of last year to be an alternative, on the compliance of which they consented to hold the Treaty at Sandusky, or on its refusal, determined to prosecute the War. Mr. Washington, as appears by his Answers, constantly avoided taking notice of this alternative, but simply acquiesced in the Meeting, after having attempted under false pretences to change the Place from Sandusky to the Miamis River.

The Indian Confederacy sent a deputation in July to the Commissioners of the United States, then at Niagara, to demand whether they had or had not the Power to establish the Line of the Ohio, which those Nations had made the express condition of their Meeting. Captain Brant delivered the Message, but not in a manner satisfactory to the Nations; and which, inconclusive as it was, the Commissioners in their Answer evaded. The result was that the Commissioners were invited to the Treaty. Brant's Conduct when he returned to the General Council was publicly and most strongly reprobated. After having suffered the Commissioners to wait a considerable time at the mouth of the Detroit River, for I did not think it proper or necessary to agree to the request of those Gentlemen that they should go to the Garrison, the Confederacy demanded a positive Answer

to the Question, on which, in fact, ought to have been delivered at Niagara. The refusal of the Ohio as a Boundary terminated all negotiation.

Colonel McKee represents in the strongest manner that he had attempted to unite the Indians to accede to the Muskingum Boundary, as the Six Nations had dissented from the requisition of the Ohio, and would no longer remain in the Confederacy should it refuse to adopt the Muskingum Boundary, but he represents that his exertions were to no purpose.

Lieut. Talbot whom I directed to accompany the Seven Nations from Canada to the Council, informs me, that on the 6 Nations' refusal to accede to the demand of the Ohio Line, as fixed upon by Sir William Johnson at Fort Stanwix, as they had sold part of this Country fairly to the States, but at the same time declaring that should the Confederacy agree to the Muskingum Boundary that they, the Six Nations, would assist them with all their force in obtaining that Line. Col. McKee called the leading Chiefs of the Western Indians into private Council, stated the Consequence of the Union, and that the Lands beyond the Muskingum were of no use to them, as they never hunted there. He advised them to agree to that Line, which the Six Nations had desired. The Chiefs admitted the validity of the reasoning, and said that they had insisted upon this Line for the Advantage of the Six Nations, but as their Brethren did not see it in that Light, they were willing to give it up. With this determination they retired from Colonel McKee's. The ensuing morning, they returned and informed him that they had been in Council the whole night considering his Advice, and that they and all the Indians, except the 6 Nations, were determined to have no other Boundary than that of Fort Stanwix. The Six Nations, it appears from Col. McKee's report, had made attempts to have the Commissioners admitted to the Council fire, previous to any determinate Line being fixed upon by the Confederacy, and that such a Line should become a matter of public Discussion: to this proposal the other Nations would not agree. The Six Nations had removed from the General Council Fire, and their general Conduct, particularly that of Capn. Brant, was highly dissatisfactory to the other Nations. To this Chief, Mr. Sheehan of the Indian Department, who, on Col. Butler's return, had the management of the 6 Nations, subordinately to Col. McKee, imputes the disunion of the Confederacy.

In the conversations that I have had with Captain Brant, he throws the whole blame of the Muskingum Boundary being rejected upon Col. McKee; he has done it in the most public and unqualified manner to all Persons, particularly to General Chapin, the Superintendent on the part of Congress, of the 6 Nations. He has seen my Instructions to Col. McKee, and in public Council, where he insidiously called upon him to declare his Sentiments relative to what Boundary it would be proper for the Indian Nations to demand, he heard that Gentleman in the most guarded manner declare that he was to assist the Indians in illustrating any former Transactions with the best Advice in his Power, but he did not think it necessary to give any advice relative to Lands or Boundaries, of whose value, they, the Indians, must themselves be the best judges. I pointed out to him, that Col. McKee had no reason to sully his character by denying any advice he thought prudent to give, as he was fully authorized to inculcate such opinions as appeared to him upon the Spot, or from his long Experience in Indian Affairs, to be for their general Interest.

I cannot My Lord, reconcile this studied endeavour of Captain Brant in throwing all the blame of the failure of Peace on Col. McKee, but from the consideration of what I believe to be a governing principle in the politics of this Chieftain, what he intimates in his Letters, dilates upon in his Conversation, and now exemplifies

in his Conduct, the wish of involving the British Empire in a quarrel with the United States.

In respect to the Ohio Boundary, upon my questioning Brant, what had made him change his Sentiments, which he had formerly communicated, that such should be the preliminary demand of the Indian Nations, and that secondarily they should recede from it, in favor of such Settlements as had really taken place beyond that River,—he assures me that on his arrival at the Miamis, he soon found that the Potawatomies of Saint Joseph had received Belts from Vincennes and were determined on Peace at any rate; that the Lake Indians were not disposed for a Continuance of the War, and that he thought the claim of the Muskingum Boundary if acceded to by the States, would be ample for the Indian Nations, and if refused, would reunite them. Upon this principle he acted. In the enclosed Speech transmitted by General Chapin to Congress, in which he had taken care to state, that the encroachments made on the Creek Nation by the People of the States and not any internal difference, had disunited the Councils of the Confederacy—

He said that the Shawanese had agreed to the Muskingum Boundary, but that they were diverted from it by Colonel McKee, as several Chiefs had informed him. As it appeared to be extremely improbable that the Congress would accede to the Boundary of the Muskingum, I endeavoured to obtain the best information of what would be the Conduct of the Six Nations and Lake Indians on its refusal. It does not appear that Brant had any decisive opinion on that Subject, or what would be the general Conduct of the Nation. He did not seem to suppose it probable that General Wayne would advance this Season. The Corn Planter and New Arrow pointed out this Boundary, and the Farmer's Brother insisted upon it in Council. These Chiefs are supposed to have the greatest influence in the Councils of the Six Nations. The situation of the Six Nations is peculiarly difficult, and they have to balance, whether they shall lose their Possessions immediately by taking up Arms against the States, or whether by suffering the Indian Confederacy to be crushed, they shall only protract for a short space the loss of their Country, which it will be hereafter impossible for them to protect, and which is too valuable not to attract the notice of Land Jobbers and a rapacious Government of which they have already experienced the Avarice and Violence. Should they remain Neutral, and by that means prevent the States from the occupation of Presqu' Isle, it might eventually be of great importance to the Confederacy, perhaps more so, than their open resistance; It appears that Pennsylvania asserts her right to that important Harbour.

The Lake Indians have to consider that the Shawanese and Delawares, having been already driven from their homes, may be considered as migratory Tribes, and that should they retire from the Stations they at present occupy, whatever Territories these Nations possess within the bounds of the United States, would be totally at the mercy of that People. It is probable that the success or failure of General Wayne's present expedition will determine the Conduct of these several Nations, and it is possible that decisive events have already taken place.

It is the opinion of Colonel Butler, given to me prior to the information of Wayne's advance, that the Six Nations, when obliged to determine, would rather take part against the Confederacy, than against the United States. In a Message that Brant had sent to those Nations previous to his arrival at the Council fire at Buffalo Creek, he had treated the Conduct of the British and the People of the United States as similar, solely attentive to their own Interest. Colonel Butler said he took occasion to contradict the Tenor of Brant's assertion, by appealing to the Indians themselves, and calling to their recollection the Instances of the King, their Father's constant Benevolence to them; the Colonel added, that all the Chiefs

and People immediately in the strongest terms acknowledged it, and proffered their attachment to the British Nation. Such has been their general Language and they have frequently asserted that they are as much attached to the King, their Father, as they have ever been, and that in the endeavour to procure a place they are acting agreeable to Your Lordship's Counsels.

The advance of the Army of the States and any Posts that Wayne may think proper to take Possession of, I presume, will not interrupt at present the harmony that subsists between His Majesty's Subjects and those of the United States, but it is impossible not to suppose that all the efforts of that Government which are now concentrated to divide the Indian Nations, will be equally employed to alienate them from the British Nation, should they be successful in their present attempt.

It becomes necessary for me to State to Your Lordship, as I shall do to His Majesty's Ministers, that I think it necessary for the Protection of this Colony, the Bulwark of the British Empire in America, that the Positions which I have already detailed in my letter to Major General Clarke, of the 31 May, 1793, should be occupied with a competent Force, as soon as possible, I have, in a former dispatch to Mr. Secretary Dundas, stated my Ideas of the Nature of that Force, the completion of the Troops allotted for the defence of the Province to their present Establishment. The instant that London on the Thames should be occupied in Force, and as the Seat of Government, it will become the Centre to unite all the Indians living within the British Territories, and probably to secure what is at present a very secondary Consideration, the Traffic of those Nations, who by the means of the Lakes and Rivers shall have a ready access to it from the opposite shores: It will not escape Your Lordship that such a Position will have many advantages in respect to the United States, and that as the Public is in general prepared for my occupying it, and as it may be done without any ostensible increase of the Forces, it will not appear that Umbrage at the Approach of the Troops of the United States, or any Apprehension of their Power has occasioned such a Measure. Preparatory to such an event, should the King's Ministers approve of the Arrangements I have proposed and reinforce this Province so as to enable me to carry them into effect, a road is already cut to the Grand River, or Ouse, above Brant's Settlements, on the Road to the Thames, and by great exertions, I have but little doubt but that I could seat myself on the spot I have visited and think admirably suited for a CAPITAL by next winter; At the same period occupy a Station for Shipping at the Harbour of Long Point. But if any unforeseen circumstances prevent His Majesty's Ministers or Your Lordship from such an Augmentation of the Troops, as appear to me to be necessary, I shall make use of the discretion reposed in me, and remain in this most important Station.

Directions have been given to make out for Your Lordship the plans of the several Harbours and Communications that have been surveyed since my arrival in the Province, and, which the unfortunate illness of the Acting Surveyor General¹ has prevented me from transmitting by the present opportunity. I propose to remain at this Place with the Queen's Rangers during the Winter. It will give me infinite satisfaction to have the opportunity of conversing with Your Lordship, of explaining my Ideas relative to the Military and Civil Establishments necessary to the separation of the Province, and by zealously entering into Your Lordship's Views, and by carrying into execution your Commands, contribute to His Majesty's Service and to the Benefit of this very important part of the British Empire.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

To H. Excy. Lord Dorchester.

¹Lieut. D. W. Smith.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO JOHN WENTWORTH.

YORK (LATE TORONTO) UPPER CANADA.

November 11th, 1793.

Sir,

I take the earliest opportunity of informing Your Excellency that the negotiations between the American Indians and the United States having failed in the desirable purpose of establishing peace, I have this moment received advice from Colonel England that the Army of the States is advancing rapidly under the conduct of General Wayne into the Indian country. The Indians, it appears, had cut off a small convoy in the rear of that Officer's Army.

The Nations are divided in opinions. The Western Indians in alliance with the Creeks and Cherokee nations insisted upon the Boundary as established by Sir Wm. Johnson. The Six Nations and the Lake Indians seceded upon this being the determination of the Confederacy from the General Council. They contented themselves with the boundary to begin from the Mississippi, to follow the course of the Ohio up the Muskingum, and from thence it heads in a direct line to the Pennsylvania boundary and following that boundary till it strikes the Genesee River at its forks to terminate in Lake Ontario. This as their ultimatum has been transmitted to Congress by General Chapin, the Superintendent of the United States. It is probable that success on the one part or the other in the present autumn will decide upon the future opinions of this secession from the Confederacy.

Should I indulge in a conjecture I should suppose that Wayne's present movement was merely an inroad preparatory to his turning his force against the Creeks and Southern Indians, so late is the season and so difficult it must be to establish Magazines in the face of the Indian Nations. But as I am not to judge of these people by the modes of European warfare, and know that they would recoil on the Army of the United States, whenever it should retreat, I am induced to believe that General Wayne, perfectly informed of the dissensions among the Nations, has wisely taken the opportunity and perhaps may be enabled to take post; as it is probable that during the late suspension of arms, he has filled his outposts with provisions necessary for his future establishments.

I have the honor to be with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant.

J. G. SIMCOE.

To His Excellency Lt. Governor Wentworth,
Nova Scotia.

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO A. MACDONELL.

YORK, Novr. 11, 1793.

Sir,

In reply to your letters of the 7 & 8 insts., which I was yesterday favored with, I have His Excellency's directions to acquaint you of his approbation of the 2 soldiers of the Queen's Rangers being detailed at the Salt Springs, under your superintendence, in the vicinity of Niagara, provided you take particular care that they behave well, and especially that they do not get any rum to injure their

constitutions. His Excy. is sorry that you have incurred any extraordinary expense, of which in the present instance he cannot perceive the necessity. It certainly is not his intention to curtail your salary while in actual service, and he has not given his instructions for its being discontinued. I have reason to believe, Sir, he is much pleased with your exertions at the Salt Springs, and is happy that the prospect of their proving liberally advantageous to Government is so favorable, but H. E. expected to have received more frequent reports from you at different times relative to the progress that you had made in this undertaking, and that you will be so good as to attend to this in future.

I presume you may retain the stove during the winter, at least, till I receive His Excy's commands to the contrary, you will undoubtedly prevent its sustaining any injury.

H. Excy. has not objected to you occupying Mr. Kerr's house, and indeed you have his permission to do so, but I am desired to refer you to Lieut. Pilkington of the Royal Engineers, and if there are any general reasons for your not taking possession, he of course, will state them to me for the Lieut. Govr's information.

I am, &c.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Mr. McDonnell.
Salt Springs, Grantham.

COPY OF A LETTER FROM COLONEL ALEX. McKEE TO JOSEPH
CHEW, SECRETARY OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, DATED
MIAMIS RAPIDS, 15th NOVR. 1793.

Dear Sir,

Since my letter to you of the 20th October, so great a variety of Reports have been sent to me from the Glaize of the situation and strength of the American Force now in the Indian Country, that it is impossible for me to ascertain any thing certain respecting it for the information of the Commander in Chief, and the Superintendant General & Inspector General of Indian Affairs. If however any thing of importance should happen after the close of the navigation, I shall endeavor to forward an Express to the Head Quarters of this Province from whence it may be transmitted to you by a like means. It is proper for me to mention nevertheless that the last accounts brought here last night, state the Army to be within a day and a half's Journey of the Glaize.

I am with great esteem & sincerity Dr. Sir,

Your most obedient & very humble Servant

A. McKEE.

Joseph Chew, Esqr.

RETURN OF EXPORTS FROM DETROIT TO MICHILIMACKINAC AND
THE FALLS OF ST. MARY, &c., &c., ON BOARD THE PRIVATE
VESSELS BETWEEN THE 15th OF APRIL AND
20th OF NOVEMBER, 1793.

975 Gallons of Wine.
2253 Gallons Spirits.
280 Guns.
3350 pounds of Gunpowder.
69 cwt. Shot & Ball.
217 Dry Goods in Trunks, Boxes, &c.
678 Sundries in Cases, Boxes, Hogsheads, &c.
1979 Packs Peltries.
3 Chests Tea.
2 Jars Oil.
17 Barrels Castorum.
3983 Bushels Indian Corn.
189,172 lbs. Flour.
176 Bushels Oats.
14 Packs Green Hides.
9 Bars of Iron.
1 Cable.
45 Brick Tiles.
80 Boards.
1 Anchor.

R. ENGLAND,
Lieut. Col. Commg.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER OF E. B. LITTLEHALES TO
D. W. SMITH.

YORK, Nov'r 22d, 1793.

Dear Sir/

I have been favoured with your several letters of the 11th, 12th, 13th instant and have laid the same before His Excellency the Lt. Governor with their inclosures; I reenclose to you Mr. McCrea's Letter & Memorial; and the Certificate with His Excellency's signature to remove the reserves leading from Burlington Bay to the Thames.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient

humble servant

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

D. W. Smith, Esq'r.
A.S.G.

*Endorsed: Major Littlehales, 22 Nov'r '93, Sur. Gen. Dep't. To be entered.
D. W. S. Entered Bk. Lett. rec'd. Page 300. T.R.*

(Certificate)

In order to the facilitating the opening the Road from Coot's Paradise to Oxford on the Upper Forks of the River Thames, as well as encourage the speedy & close settlement of that communication, I have consented in Council, that the acting Surveyor General, might denote the Reserves on that Road, he taking especial care to make them up in some other part of the Townships.

J. G. SIMCOE
Lt. Gov'r

Endorsed: Certificate for the Acting Surveyor General to remove the Reserves, on the Road leading fr'm Burlington Bay & Coot's Paradise to Oxford, on the River Thames. Entered, page 297, Lett. rec'd. T.R.

(MSS. of D. W. Smith, Toronto Public Library, Series A, Vol. 8, p. 1, etc.)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO THE DUKE OF RICHMOND.

YORK, Novr. 22, 1793.

My Lord Duke,

I do myself the honor of transmitting to Your Grace the duplicate of my Letter of the 23d September.

I take this opportunity of observing to Your Grace that the Season having been so favorable, the Troops are hutting themselves at this Post with great expedition: from the selection of the material, I have reason to believe that they will build comfortable Barracks of logwork, which will last, it is presumed, for 7 years. This circumstance precludes the necessity of my transmitting estimates for stone Barracks, as in my dispatches I had intimated to Your Grace.

I think it proper to enclose to Your Grace, Lieut. Pilkington's estimate for the proposed store house and Blockhouse at York.

I have the honor to be with the most perfect Respect, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

The Duke of Richmond.
Master of the Ordnance.

INFORMATION FROM JOHN WATKINS, A DESERTER FROM U.S. ARMY.

POINT AUX CHENE MIAMIS RIVER.
26th Nov. 1793.

The Information of John Watkins, a deserter from the Army of the United States.

This informant states he was a soldier in the second United States Regiment, and deserted from the Army encamped at a Bridge six miles on this side Fort Jefferson on Tuesday the 12th Instant.

That the said army consists of about 2,500 men and that when he left it, they had nearly finished Huts to serve as Winter Quarters, that it was intended immediately after the Huts should be completed to build a log fort round the whole, that the Militia Forces amounting to about 1200, had returned home five days before he deserted.

That at the time he left the Army there was not more than 18 or 20 days Provision for it, but that an escort was preparing to be sent to fort Washington to get some forward.

That the loss of their horses taken by the Indians, and by death, has occasioned the scarcity and delayed the movements of the Army, and that it was owing to the smallness of the Ration which caused his deserting and the two others who accompanied him called Charles Whiting and ——— Waldrum.

That there are 22 Howitzers with the Army & that two days before he deserted all the light horse were sent to Kentucky, except one company of about 50 men, which was detained for the greater security of General Wayne the Commanding general.

That it was the general conversation and belief in the Camp, before the scarcity of Provisions was so great that they were to winter in the neighbourhood of Detroit.

He further says that there are no Southern Indians with the Army except 9 Chickasaws.

A. McKEE.
D.A.I.A.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

No. 2.

YORK, December 2d, 1793.

My Lord,

I have just been honored with Your Lordship's Letter (No. 1) of the 7th October.

It gives me great satisfaction that Your Lordship thinks my Answer to Mr. Ogden to have been very proper. I shall in Obedience to Your Lordship's wish communicate from time to time every Information on the Progress of the Settlements in the Genesee Country, and that may in any degree affect the interests of the Provinces under your Lordship's Command.

The Major of Brigade, Captain Littlehales, being sent by me to Mr. Hammond thro' the Genesee last Winter, on his return, gave me the Journal of his Rout, which I beg leave to transmit to you; & as I have no time on account of the pressure of the Transport to Copy it; I request the favor of its being returned to me the ensuing Spring.

Your Lordship will be so good as to make allowance for a Journal merely meant for my private Information; in particular as Captain Littlehales is at Niagara.

— The universal sickness which has prevailed in the Genesee has checked the Emigration through that district into Upper Canada; many persons now resident there have had Lands assigned to them by the Council within this Province;— and it appears to be likely that there will be constant Emigrations from thence into Upper Canada. The Preference of the British form of Government is alledged by some for quitting the States, but the Oppression of the Land Jobbers, and the

uncertainty of the Titles is the more general Reason. The dread of the Indians has also its effects.

It is not impossible that the latter Reason for Emigration may have attracted the attention of Mr. Morris,¹ and that his Influence may add to that very particular attention and anxiety which the Government of the United States have shewn to conciliate & win over the Six Nations to their Interests, and which till of late It seems most unaccountably to have neglected.—I beg to state to your Lordship that when I was at Detroit, Colonel McKee shewed me a letter from a Person,² who was then at Philadelphia, saying that Mr. Morris was or would be the owner of the Lands adjoining to *Presqu' Isle*, & intimating that Mr. McKee might have a large portion for himself or his Friends.—In conversation with Mr. Ogden He talked of the Settlement at *Presqu' Isle* as foreign to their views (Morris himself & Co.) & diametrically opposite to their Interests.

In regard to Mr. Pulteney's purchase, the Agent Bertzie,³ is now in Jail, as I apprehend for overdrawing on his Employers: and it was with difficulty that Mr. Williamson escaped from falling a victim to the dissatisfaction of the German Settlers. It is more than possible that by degrees these People will emigrate into Upper Canada.

I understand from various quarters that a petition is to be presented to the State of New York this session by the Inhabitants of the Genesee's requesting to become a new & independent State. It is given out that the Numbers who signed this Petition amount to Twenty Thousand.

Mr. Livingstone who was disappointed in the former purchase of those Lands from the Six Nations, is said to be at the head of this petition—by what I understand He by no means possesses the Abilities which in General characterize his Family. Rumour, as might be expected, gives out that these people are determined in case of failure in their Attempts, to place themselves under the Protection of Great Britain. The State of Connecticut is about to sell the Pre-emption Right to that Strip of land which lies upon Lake Erie, and which belongs to that Government. It is stated as such in Morse's Geography, and delineated in Sewel's Map. In respect to the Progress of Population & Agriculture on the North Side of the Lakes, and how near they approach to Toronto, on which Your Lordship desires to be informed, I beg to observe that in the course of this year many Grants have been made by the Council of this Province in strict adherence to his Majesty's Instructions; but that in general few Emigrations have taken place, nor from the distance which the Persons who have applied for Grants have to Convey their families could reasonably be presumed to take place untill the ensuing Summer.

The Settlements of this place whether It becomes the Capital of the Province or not will be attended with no difficulty nor dependant on a continued and thin chain of settlements between it and the Bay of Kenté.

The soil between this and Lake aux Claies (now Simcoe) is perfectly calculated for farming & before the summer the road of communication will probably be thickly settled—thirty families are now on the eve of being located in its vicinity, and there is but little doubt but that by this communication the North West Company will supply themselves with many of their heavy Articles, instead of by the circuitous Rout of Lake Erie. The Inhabitants will soon raise abundance of Provisions; in the mean time, they can procure them at a cheaper rate from the Bay

¹ Robert Morris, the noted speculator in wild lands.

² John Connolly.

³ William Berczy, who subsequently removed with a colony of Germans to the township of Markham.

of Kenté than they are to be met with at Niagara. The Rivers and Bays abound with Salmon, & the descent from the Height of Land which separates the Lakes being gradual, there are but few Swamps, & the Climate appears to be remarkably fine.

The Town of York has been directed to be laid out on the Personal Inspection of the Council as appeared to them, in the most proper manner & situation, & the whole shore from the River Humber (St. John's Creek)¹ has been reserved for the Crown, including every spot that may be proper for Batteries, not only with that View, but that such Persons whose occupations & employments ought to render them the Inhabitants of a Town might of necessity be confined to the most eligible situation, & by their Condensation facilitate the growth of the Commerce, & of the Power of the Province—but I must observe that no reserves for military purposes have been marked on any Plan I have ever received from Mr. Collins.

Mr. Aitkin, the Deputy Surveyor, will have the honor of conveying to Your Lordship a Survey of this place. He is well qualified to give you any Information which you may require.

I am truly sorry that your Lordship does not approve of any fortifications being at present erected at this most defensible & important Spot.

In my view of the existing State of this Province, Your Lordship may be assured that Its peculiar circumstances, Its Posts, Its extensive Frontier, & Force (as at present disposed), totally inadequate for its defence, has not escaped my most serious attention, and above all in the taking possession of this Post, I have not lost sight that it may eventually be necessary to withdraw part of the Forces from this Province should Hostilities commence; for the especial purpose of carrying into execution such a measure should It be thought necessary, I have explored with great difficulty, the Communications between this Harbour and Matchadash, now Gloucester Bay, a sketch of which will be transmitted by Mr. Aitkin, who accompanied me, to your Lordship. It is obvious that in case of emergency, means might be found to pass the Troops by this rout to Montreal, should it be impracticable by the St. Lawrence. This event I alluded to in my Letter to Major General Clarke of the 31st of May, where I intimate that "this communication in the *present* situation of Affairs may possibly become of Military Importance." I have also with this general view, paid every attention to the Militia, & by a late Act formed upon the British model as nearly as circumstances will admit, I have endeavoured to prepare the Way that the Militia may always be under the Command of persons whose Property & situation shall necessarily interest them in the Protection of the Colony—but it will not escape your Lordship that unless the Militia are armed, they can in no shape be trained to the shadow of discipline, & It would be much for the King's Service should Arms be occasionally put into their hands & at other periods left as in Great Britain in the custody of their respective Officers; whose consequence would naturally be increased by such an important trust; should Hostilities unhappily commence the system as approved by Your Lordship of selecting a Company for Actual Service, appears to be the only mode in which they could possibly be drawn out to public Advantage.

I purpose every year either in person or by the Adjutant General to review the Militia of the Province. And I mean to select such Places as appear to me to be of the greatest military advantage for the Points of Assembly of the Militia, & their Camps in case of Hostilities & to reserve them for this especial purpose in the Hands of the Crown—It being my Idea that the proposed Capital should by no

¹ So called from being the site of the trading post established by Jean Baptiste Rousseau.

means be fortified on European System, but Its approach protected by the Sea Posts & intermediate Positions; but My Lord, in adverting to this case of extreme and hazardous necessity, the withdrawing the greatest part of the forces from this Province, I have most certainly conceived it to be my indispensable Duty to pre-occupy such a situation as might enable me to defend the Province entrusted to my command (should not your Lordship find a more desirable employment for me) in such a manner as Circumstances might admit of & might best conduce by the Union of Naval and Military Force to the protection of the general Interests of his Majesty's Subjects, & in this Spirit I have upon mature deliberation suspended what I am convinced nothing but want of power ought to procrastinate for a single moment, the occupying a situation upon the River Thames that might connect & govern the Indian Nations & which I should not hesitate to state as more immediately & more permanently necessary to the safety of this Province in all respects, & more conducive to the British Interests than the garrisoning the Post of Detroit, with greater numbers than a single *Company*, did not the War at present raging on the Frontiers, render it prudent to preserve that specious ascendancy which in the Estimation of the Indians, but by no means of the United States, is built upon our possession with nominal force of that nominal fortress. Were not such the existing circumstances of the Country & should they speedily subside in an equitable Peace, It is in my apprehension incontrovertible that the Regiment now stationed there, ought to be removed, a *Company* excepted, to the Places I have designated, *Chatham* and *London*. I am also persuaded the garrison at Niagara should be as soon as possible equally reduced, & the Troops placed in the more useful Stations of Long Point & York. As the Settlements of the United States approach to our present Posts, there is every appearance that Desertion will be so very prevalent, as of itself to be a good reason for the withdrawing from them all but a few Men sufficient to prevent Indian robbery & to certify the Commission of Hostilities should the United States venture upon so serious an Undertaking.

The Position of these Troops, in the arrangement I have submitted, then unconfined by any Garrison Duty, but that of a single Block house, which would be sufficiently protected by the Invalids & worn out Soldiers of the different Regiments, or of those settled in the Province, might take due advantage of the facilities which the Command of the Water gives to these Provinces & might act with an efficacy more than adequate to their insufficient Numbers.

Having this Idea fully in View, My Lord, I have by no means interfered with the established & direct Communication which is secured in the exact manner in which It was arranged on my arrival in the Province; but in withdrawing the Queen's Rangers to this important Station, I hold myself in reserve to move to whatever Point it may be necessary & to which your Lordship shall be pleased to direct, or if sudden exigencies should arise that I could not avail myself of your Orders in sufficient time for his Majesty's Service, wherever in my Judgment I shall be able to act in the best manner to promote it. At the same time, should I have the Pleasure of seeing your Lordship at this place, I make no doubt but the arrangement of the Log Huts for the Queen's Rangers, & the Public Store that I shall build the ensuing Spring on Point *Gibraltar* will be such as in your Lordship's Estimation with a due proportion of Artillery & an equal Garrison, will appear to be more defensible than *Detroit*, & scarcely less so than Niagara.

To attend in the most particular manner to the discipline of this Corps, & to render it suited to any Service, is one of the Reasons which has determined me to reside here during this Winter.

It is my Duty to observe to your Lordship that in case of the King's Troops

being totally withdrawn & that Hostilities should commence by the Indians or United States against this Province, It does not appear to me possible that It can exist as a Member of the British Empire.

I have the honor to be with great Respect, My Lord,
Your Lordship's Most Obedient & Most humble Servant.

J. G. SIMCOE.

The Rt. Honble Lord Dorchester.

Endorsed:—In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 20. of the 15th Decr. 1793.

(2)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

YORK, Decr. 3rd, 1793.

My Lord,

I have the honor of acknowledging Your Lordship's letter of the 7th of October. So soon as I shall have received the return of the Officers employed of the Marine, &c. &c. I will embrace the earliest opportunity of complying with Your Lordship's directions, and submit to you such Ideas as I entertain for the advancement of His Majesty's Service in the Naval Department on the Lakes in Upper Canada.

I enclose to Your Lordship an extract from Major of Brigade, Capn. Littlehales' letter to me on the Subject of Indian Affairs, and on the promise of Col. Butler to exert himself in executing his duty as Col. of Militia. The Major of Brigade is left at Niagara at this Juncture for various Public Services, and in particular to attend any Indian Meetings that may take place between the Six Nations and the United States.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

YORK, Decr. 3, 1793.

My Lord,

I am to acknowledge Your Lordship's letter of the 17th of October.

I will take the earliest opportunity the ensuing Spring of fully investigating in person the extortion complained of frequently by the Seamen, and by one of the Captains on this Lake as the natural consequence of the present mode of payment, and transmit to Your Lordship such Observations as may be necessary to elucidate the Enquiry. The close of the Navigation prevents me from all possibility of effecting such an Investigation in a satisfactory manner this Season.

I do not recollect, My Lord, in any of my communications with His Excellency Major General Clarke, stating any doubts relative to the Military Authority of the Civil Lieutenant Governor of the Province, or the Counsellor, who, in his Absence, might be selected for its Command, and I have no wish that any of the King's Regulations, without evident necessity, should in any case be altered.

I am, My Lord, with great Respect, &c.

J. GRAVES SIMCOE.

The Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

CIRCULAR LETTER TO LIEUTENANTS OF COUNTIES.

Circular.

NAVY HALL, Dec. 5, 1793.

Sir,

The indisposition of the printer has prevented the publication of the several Acts passed in the Second Session of the Legislature of this Province, but I am happy to inform you that his recovery will enable him forthwith to commit the whole of them to the press. In the meantime, I transmit to you some printed Copies of the Bill for the better regulation of the Militia of Upper Canada, and I hope by the return of the Winter Express, all the Acts will be in circulation in every District.

I need not observe, Sir, how very consonant to His Excellency's wishes, the organization of the Militia will be, as he so strongly recommended this measure to the attention of the Legislature. In obedience to His Commands, I avail myself of the earliest opportunity of forwarding to you the enclosed Act.

I have the honor to be &c.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Sent to the several
Lieutenants of Counties
in Upper Canada.

J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

YORK, Decmr. 6th, 1793.

My Lord,

I do myself the honor of enclosing to Your Lordship Speeches and Papers that have passed between me and Joseph Brant since my arrival in this Country relative to the Grants of Lands promised to the Six Nations upon the Grand River, by the late Sir Frederick Haldimand. I felt it my duty to give to the Six Nations thro' Brant, the earliest assurance that the change of Government would make no alteration in the King's benevolence towards them, and that the granting to them thus Title Deeds would be among the first Objects of my attention when I should arrive in Upper Canada. Before I left Quebec, I received from Captain Brant the enclosed Answer to my letter. In consequence at a Council held for the purpose of publicly ratifying the Grant of the Lands conceded such a Deed was offered to the Six Nations, as the Laws of England admitted of, and as fully embraced the benevolent Instructions of Sir Frederick Haldimand and Your Lordship. This Deed was peremptorily refused by Captain Brant, as it did not contain within it a power for the Indians to lease their lands, a power which it appeared to me would be highly injurious to their Interests, and as I was advised illegal in respect to the Customs and Laws of Great Britain. Previous to their Council, in conversation with Brant, he had intimated his expectations of having the Lands granted to the Indians as fully as to the Loyalists, and on my observing that if they had the power of leasing them, the Object of the King's benevolence would be ineffectual, for the Indians would lease them to the Land Jobbers. He said Your Lordship had told him as much, but that the Indians were not always to be fools because they had once been such.

The Letter enclosed (No. 2) was also written to me by Brant soon after this conversation, and I was informed that there was a great tumult at the Grand River, and that the Chief Women had met in Council, and given it in charge to their Warriors to defend their Lands. The correspondence between Genl. Clarke and Colonel Gordon in 1791, will have informed Your Lordship that a murder, which was committed at the Grand River, had given occasion to an Altercation between the Magistrates of the District and the Indian Chiefs, in the course of which Colonel Gordon thought it proper to stop their annual presents until the offenders should be delivered up to Justice. Upon Colonel Gordon's report of this matter to General Clarke, it was His Excellency's order the presents should be delivered to the Indians, upon their Chiefs becoming responsible that the suspected Persons should be amenable to Justice, whenever the Situation of the Country should be such that they could be brought to trial. Upon this Council being held for the purpose of delivering to the Chiefs of the Grand River their Title Deeds for the Lands which had been promised to them, Captain Brant made a long Speech, and delivered a Belt, which, upon being interpreted to me by Colonel Butler, to my great surprise, I understood was to cover the grave of the Person who had been murdered, according to the Ancient Indian Custom, but which has for some years been obsolete in all transactions between His Majesty's Subjects and the Mohawks, who in a Treaty, held by Sir William Johnson, as I am informed, had many years ago, agreed to deliver up all their People who should commit any murders, to the Justice of the British Laws. I refused this Belt and left the Council House. The Indians, I apprehend, were in great astonishment, and the Affair began to wear a serious aspect. Upon the Nature of it being fully explained by Colonel Butler, who at the same time added that the murder was really committed in a "Drunken frolic that there were no evidence present, and that his advice to the Indians concerned not to accuse themselves, as being inconsistent with the Administration of Justice by our Laws, however wilfully misinterpreted by Brant, was given from a conviction of the worthlessness of the Person who had fallen the victim of a drunken quarrel."

It has since been thought that the supposed murderers were Brant's near relations, and above all, seeing in the whole of Brant's Conduct an Indisposition to Government, probably covering some sinister purpose, It was thought most prudent that I should accept the Belt, which was accordingly done next day.

The detail is necessary, My Lord, to the explanation of some parts of the Speech. In conversation with Captain Brant, he had stated the impracticability of the Indians supporting themselves by their hunting, of the Indians themselves they could not provide for their old men and children by their farms, and that he conceived the leasing of them to be the only mode by which they could maintain themselves and their families. Brant, thro' the medium of some of his friends, made an overture to me to sell part of these Lands. In the Council I had promised to refer the Question to His Majesty, providing the whole of the Six Nations united in the request. It appeared to me that this matter should not undergo a discussion while the great matter of Peace transacted by the Indian Confederacy was in agitation, but I took care from time to time, to impress upon the Six Nations, and particularly in conversation to O'Beal, that these Lands were granted to the Six Nations and their Allies generally and by no means to Captain Brant, as seemed to be their prevalent opinion. In a recent conversation which I held with him, I promised to refer the matter to Your Lordship. I stated to him that if it should be thought proper to permit the Indians to sell any part of their Lands, it is obvious to me that it should be a small part of them at present, that the Township on the Banks of the Lake, and one that communicated between the Thames and Burlington

Bay (The La Tranche and the Head of the Lake), would be the most useful to us, and the most profitable to them. That the sale ought to be made in London, and the produce vested in the British Funds, the annual Interest of which should be paid to the uses of their old People and Children. I must observe that Brant's remarks in the Letter No. 2, on Sir John Johnson's wishing to obtain part of the lands which I have just described, are very improper, as it is fully understood here, that Brant was very willing to give these Lands to Sir John Johnson for his private use, and refused them only when he understood they were asked for the benefit of the Crown and the People at large. From Brant's conversation I apprehend the Senecas are seriously turning their thoughts in case of accident to repair to the Grand River.

Brant has said that the offers of Congress to him, were a Township for himself, as much lands as he chose for the Indians, and a guinea a day for himself for life.¹ Captain John of the Mohawks and his Village settled in the Bay of Quinte, received their Title Deed with great expressions of thankfulness, and not without observations on the improper Conduct of Brant.

My opinion of Brant is, that he is true to the Indian Interest, and honorable in his Attachment, where that is not concerned, to the British Nation, that he sees the Calamities which in all probability must ultimately attend the Continuance of the War, unless by some means or other Great Britain shall take a direct part on the protection of the Indians.

When in my Speech I mention the liberal construction of the Government of Sir Frederick Haldimand's promise I refer to the extension of the Grant of Six Miles on each side of the Grand River, as far as it ran, and arranging with the Missasaguas the limits of our purchase. Until I saw this promise of Sir Frederick Haldimand in Brant's possession, from the proceedings of the Land Board of the District, and the Plans I had received at Quebec, I had of course supposed that the Boundary of the Six Nations had not extended so far to the Northwards.

I think it may be agreeable to Your Lordship to see the observations of Mr. Hamilton on the Lands on the Grand River. He is a very respectable Person in this Province, and they were communicated to me on my being desirous of obtaining every possible light on this important Subject. I therefore enclose them for Your Lordship's perusal.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. GRAVES SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

¹ Washington had stated in writing his wish that his government could convince Brant of its equitable intentions. Brant positively affirmed that he had been offered a thousand guineas and double the sum he was receiving annually from the British government if he would support the claims of the United States. As these practically were the terms of the treaty lately made with McGillivray, his statement does not seem to be at all improbable.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

YORK, Decmr. 6th, 1793.

My Lord,

I think it proper to mention to Your Lordship that on the request of Mr. McDonnell,¹ Speaker of the House of Assembly of this Province, I made an application to His Majesty's Ministers for a number of Highland Broadwords, which Mr. McDonnell represented to me were by the late Lieut. Governor Hope required for the purpose of arming the Militia of the County of Glengarry, who are Highland Emigrants. It appears to me that the compliance with this request would be of Public Service.

It is just now reported to me by Major Smith that the Wharf at Fort Erie was almost entirely carried away by the late storm.

I have the honor to be, My Lord, &c.

J. GRAVES SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO ALURED CLARKE.

NAVY HALL, Decr. 10, 1793.

Sir,

I am to do myself the honor of acknowledging to Your Excellency the receipt of some papers relative to the claims of Mr. Street² on Government lands at Mississagua Point and at the Landing, now Queenstown. That Gentleman has hitherto failed in his prosecution of the Engineer, Lieut. Pilkington, the decision of the Court of Common Pleas in this Country having been in favor of His Majesty's rights: but should any further proceedings take place, the papers which Your Excellency has had the goodness to transmit to me, will I trust be found to be of great utility.

The Land Boards of this Country having placed different interpretations on the orders and regulations of the Governor and Council of Quebec, I am to request Your Excellency's opinion on the validity of the claim which is insisted upon by some of those Gentlemen, namely: "That all lands which were granted by due authority previous to regulations of 17 Feby, 1789, are not subject to those regulations, and in consequence, the individual owners of such Grants are entitled to such Spots as contain Mines, Minerals, Fossils, conveniences for Mills, and all advantages whatever." It is stated that they are confirmed in this Construction by the extract of Lord Sydney's Letter to Lord Dorchester, in the proceedings of the Council of Quebec on the 20 of January, 1790, which declares the Royal Intentions, "That the new Settlers in the Districts, now Upper Canada, shall at

¹ John Macdonell, 1750-1810, born in Glengarry, Scotland; ensign and lieutenant, 84th Regt., (Royal Highland Emigrants), 1775-8; wounded in the arrest of Thomas Walker; lieutenant and captain in Butler's Rangers, 1778-84; Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for the District of Lunenburg, 1787-92; member and Speaker of the Assembly, 1792-6; Lieutenant of the County of Glengarry, 1792-1808; major and lieutenant-colonel commanding second battalion of the Royal Canadian Volunteers, 1795-1802; Paymaster, 10th Royal Veteran Battalion, 1807-10.

² Samuel Street Sr., 1750-1815, afterwards Speaker of the Assembly.

all events be placed on the same footing as their brethren of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick."

In order to elucidate the proper Construction to be placed upon such a promise on the part of Government, I wish for information, which it is probable that Your Excellency can furnish, whether the settlers of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick received Grants of the Mines which may be found in that Country? for to this very great extent it should seem the present Idea would reach, and not be confined to what is of inferior and local utility, the reservation of Mill Seats and other Conveniences. The first settlers in this Province, by the monopoly of Lands in their respective vicinities, granted to them on principles of National Justice must have great advantages over the present settlers, but I conceive it will be an inequality beyond all reason, should they be entitled, not only to local conveniences, which the Government of this Province can, if it be thought prudent, grant to future settlers, but, also, the possession of those Mines which are in all Grants subsequent to 17 Feby. 1789, directed to be reserved for the benefit of the Crown, and from the disposal of which this Government is precluded.

The exigencies of this Government appearing to me to require six Batteaux in addition to those at the respective Garrisons, as I understand they can be procured cheaper at Montreal, than constructed in this Province, I am to request that Your Excellency will have the goodness to furnish me with that number, to be at Niagara, as early as possible in the Spring.

I cannot but feel an earnest desire that I should be furnished with a travelling carriage or carriages for the medium 12 pounders now on board of the Gun Boats, as by those means, in case of emergency, the Garrisons would be speedily reinforced with those formidable pieces of Ordnance, and that, at a time when either the present or future Gun Boats shall, from the nature of the operations, be incapable of rendering any material Service. I submit this request to Your Excellency, that if it be approved of by you, those carriages may be made at Quebec and forwarded to Niagara as soon as possible. They certainly would give the appearance of force without enhancing the Public Expence.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

His Excellency, Major General Clarke, Quebec.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

YORK, December 11, 1793.

My Lord,

I am sorry to inform Your Lordship that on the eighth inst., His Majesty's Armed Schooner, *Onondaga*, parted from her cable, as she was at anchor on the outside of the Harbour of York, and was driven on a sand bank and immediately bilged. Every exertion was made by Lieut. Earle,¹ who commanded the vessel to preserve her, in which he was assisted by Lieut. Paxton² of the Caldwell. Mr. Bouchette³ of the *Sophia* Gun Boat,⁴ and the Garrison contributed all the assistance

¹ Hugh Earle, 1764-1840; 1st lieut. 1805; captain, 1812-13; married a daughter of Molly Brant.

² Thomas Paxton, master of the *Speedy*, who perished in that vessel, October 7-8, 1804.

³ Joseph Bouchette.

⁴ Named in honor of Simcoe's daughter.

in their power. The inclemency of the Season has rendered every effort to no purpose, and the only hope that remains, which from the slightness of her materials, I am by no means sanguine in, is that she may be got off the ensuing Spring, for which every arrangement is made.

Lieut. Earle proceeds in the Caldwell to Kingston, and Mr. Paxton in the Gun Boat to Niagara. Mr. Bouchette remains here in charge of such stores and materials as it has been thought prudent to take from the Vessel. Captain Betton,¹ being very infirm, Mr. Baker has had the command of the Vessel till this last voyage, from which he too has been prevented by illness.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. Graves Simcoe.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM ALEXANDER McKEE TO JOSEPH CHEW.

DETROIT 13th Decr, 1793.

Dr. Sir.

I did not get in from the Indian Country until the 7th Inst. and inclose the information of a deserter whom I brought here with me.

There are various Accounts relative to the Present situation of the United States Army, some stating that it had retired and gone into their Forts, but others with more probability, that it was still at a Bridge about 6 miles on this side Fort Jefferson and Hutting for the Winter.

The requisitions for the Presents for the ensuing Year is exclusive of the deficiencies of the Present One, and which I hope will accompany the other early in the Spring.

✻ The Vouchers for the distribution of Presents cannot now be sent, a small part only having yet been delivered, owing to continual alarms, which during the whole fall has been kept up in the Indian Country.

I am, &c.

A. McKEE.

Joseph Chew, Esqr.
Secretary Indian Affairs.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, December 14th, 1793.

My dear Sir:—

With much pleasure I have undertaken to obtain for you the information required in your letter of the 29th of October, and in order to make the return of the inhabitants as accurate as it should be for the purpose you require it, have applied to those in the different settlements best acquainted with them to furnish

¹ Master and Commander David Betton, acting Commodore on Lake Ontario, 1786-94.

me with very correct lists, distinguishing men, women, and children under fifteen years of age, all which I will arrange and send you by the winter Express.

The return of private vessels with the imports and exports to and from this Post, which unfortunately comprehends all the trade in this country, is prepared and shall accompany the return of the inhabitants. The economical system now adopted prevents me from employing any one person to procure this list, as he would naturally require being paid for his trouble, as formerly has been the custom but which to my knowledge has been objected to lately.

I congratulate you on your return from Matchedash Bay, and rejoice at the account you give of the harbour and the easy communication. Whenever you establish it you will ruin this miserable place and defeat the purpose for which I have taken much pains these twelve months past to form settlements in its neighbourhood, but this I will not much regret if a better purpose is answered.

Our accounts from home have closed with the capture of Condé, Valenciennes, and Mayence, which the August Mail furnished us with.¹ Should anything later have reached you and you should think proper to send me an Express have charity enough to let me know it. I am glad you think so well of Sir James Murray.² Though acquainted with him I did not probably know him well enough to form so high an opinion of his Military abilities. I know he has lately been in fashion at home.

I am indeed very sincerely thankful to you for yet thinking of my unfortunate brother, who is really very, very much distressed and is a heavy weight on my spirits. I am a bad solicitor, but look to you to relieve him and me, for which I shall be ever grateful.

I hope York has proved as healthy to you, Mrs. Simcoe and your family as you expected, and shall be happy to hear that you and yours have escaped the sickness that everywhere (I think) prevailed in the fall. A wandering Indian or two from your neighbourhood with accounts of your health and situation would be highly gratifying, and a matter of much comfort to the members of this Garrison.

I request my best compliments to Mrs. Simcoe, and Mrs. England, with thanks for your recollection of her, begs to offer her compliments to you.

I am dear Sir, very faithfully,

Your truly obedient and very humble servant,

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency Lieut. Governor Simcoe.

FROM THOMAS JEFFERSON TO GEORGE HAMMOND.

PHILADELPHIA, December 15, 1793.

Sir,

I am to acknowledge the honor of your letter of November 30th, and to express the satisfaction with which we learn, that you are instructed to discuss with us the measures, which reason and practicability may dictate for giving effect to the stipulations of our treaty, yet remaining to be executed. I can assure you, on the part of the United States, of every disposition to lessen difficulties, by passing over whatever is of smaller concern, and insisting on those matters only, which

¹ Condé had surrendered on 12 July, Mainz on 22 July, and Valenciennes on 28 July, 1793.

² Chief of Staff to the Duke of York, commanding the British forces in Flanders.

either justice to individuals or public policy render indispensable; and in order to simplify our discussions, by defining precisely their objects, I have the honor to propose that we shall begin by specifying, on each side the particular acts which each considers to have been done by the other, in contravention of the treaty. I shall set the example.

The provisional and definitive treaties, in their 7th article, stipulated that his "Britannic Majesty should, with all convenient speed, and without causing any destruction, or *carrying away any negroes, or other property*, of the American inhabitants, *withdraw all his armies, garrisons, and fleets from the said United States*, and from every post, place, and harbor, within the same."

But the British garrisons were not withdrawn with all convenient speed, nor have ever yet been withdrawn from Michilimackinac on Lake Michigan; Detroit, on the strait of Lakes Erie and Huron; Fort Erie on Lake Erie; Niagara, Oswego on Lake Ontario; Oswegatchie, on the river St. Lawrence; Point Au Fer, and Dutchman's Point, on Lake Champlain.

2d. The British officers have undertaken to exercise a jurisdiction over the country and inhabitants in the vicinities of those forts; and

3d. They have excluded the citizens of the United States from navigating, even on our side of the middle line of the rivers and lakes established as a boundary between the two nations.

By these proceedings we have been intercepted entirely from the commerce of furs with the Indian nations, to the northward—a commerce which had ever been of great importance to the United States, not only for its intrinsic value, but as it was the means of cherishing peace with those Indians, and of superseding the necessity of that expensive warfare we have been obliged to carry on with them during the time that these posts have been in other hands.

On withdrawing the troops from New York, 1st. A large embarkation of negroes, of the property of the inhabitants of the United States, took place before the commissioners on our part, for inspecting and superintending embarkations, had arrived there, and without any account rendered thereof, 2nd. Near three thousand others were publicly carried away by the avowed order of the British commanding officer, and under the view, and against the remonstrances of our commissioners. 3d. A very great number were carried off in private vessels, if not by the express permission, yet certainly without opposition on the part of the commanding officer, who alone had the means of preventing it, and without admitting the inspection of the American commissioners; and 4th. Of other species of property carried away, the commanding officer permitted no examination at all. In support of these facts, I have the honor to enclose you documents, a list of which will be subjoined, and in addition to them, I beg leave to refer to a roll signed by the joint commissioners, and delivered to your commanding officer for transmission to his court, containing a description of the negroes publicly carried away by his order as before mentioned, with a copy of which you have doubtless been furnished.

A difference of opinion, too, having arisen as to the river intended by the plenipotentiaries to be the boundary between us and the dominions of Great Britain, and by them called the St. Croix, which name, it seems, is given to two different rivers, the ascertaining of this point becomes a matter of present urgency; it has heretofore been the subject of application from us to the Government of Great Britain.

There are other similar matters between the two nations, which remain to be adjusted, but I think it would be better to refer these for settlement through

the ordinary channel of our ministers, than to embarrass the present important discussions with them; they can never be obstacles to friendship and harmony.

Permit me now, sir, to ask from you a specification of the particular acts, which, being considered by his Britannic Majesty as a non-compliance on our part with the engagement contained in the 4th, 5th, and 6th articles of the treaty, induced him to suspend the execution of the 7th, and render a separate discussion of them inadmissible. And accept assurances, &c.

(The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, Edited by P. L. Ford, Vol. VI, pp. 467-9.)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

No. 20.

NIAGARA, December 15th, 1793.

Sir,

I think it necessary to lose no time in transmitting to you the first communication, with which I have been honored by Lord Dorchester, together with my Answer.

His Lordship's Opinions are so entirely opposite to every view in which I have contemplated the situation of the Provinces of Canada, either as a Civil or Military Servant of His Majesty, that I find it unnecessary to make any other comment upon them, than what I have stated in Answer to His Lordship's Letter, & what I have represented in all my public dispatches since I have been in this Country, or in such communications as I was honored in holding with His Majesty's Ministers, previous to my departure from Great Britain.

However, Sir, I think it proper to say that I feel so strongly the immoral Conduct of encouraging People to settle in this Colony under my General instructions, while I am in Possession of the Knowledge that eventually They & the Loyalists may be utterly abandoned by the withdrawing of the whole of the King's forces, supposed to be stationed for its protection, that no consideration but the pure principle of doing my utmost for the King's Service *in the present important crisis of European Affairs*, would for a moment make me wish to remain in a situation where I consider myself liable to become the instrument of the most flagitious breach of National honor & Public faith; & this without a Struggle, or in my belief any military necessity.

The Principle on which I am desired by his Lordship to pay attention to the Militia from its very nature cannot in prudence be communicated to them, as Their unprotected & *unarmed* state leaving them exposed to the peculiar horrors of Indian Warfare as well as that of the United States, would naturally operate to make their instantaneous submission upon the approach of an Enemy, a duty They owe to preserve themselves & their Families.

These same reasons prevent me from laying the substance of Lord Dorchester's Letter before the Executive Council, which I should otherwise most certainly do, to advise with them on the existing Situation of the Province & to propose the fortifying of York on that cheap system of Defence, for which I am now making preparation & which having been transmitted to you & to the Duke of Richmond I most earnestly hope for your sanction to carry into execution.

I must beg leave to observe, Sir, that if the Queen's Rangers shall be ordered out of this Province I shall have no Military Rank or Authority.

I have thought it necessary, Sir, to explain myself to you, on this important Subject, that my own Character as a Public Servant may stand Justified to my

King & my Country, should these unfortunate events take place, which from Lord Dorchester's Letter he seems to expect.

The necessity of the Executive Government of this Country, having the controul of the Indian Presents, and the total management of their Affairs, is every hour impressed upon my mind, as necessary to the Power of the British Nation, and no less so to regulate & lessen the Public expenditure.

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect, Sir,
Your most Obedient & Obliged Humble Servant.

J. G. SIMCOE

Lt. Govr. of Upper Canada.

The Right Honorable Henry Dundas, one of
his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, &c., &c., &c.

Endorsed:—Niagara, 15th Decr. 1793. Lt. Govr. Simcoe. R. 8th April. No. 20. Ansd. (Two Inclosures)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO THE DUKE OF RICHMOND.

NIAGARA, 15 Decr. 1793.

My Lord Duke,

I did myself the honor on the 23 November to forward to Your Grace the estimate of the expense which has been furnished me by the Engineer, Lieut. Pilkington, that would attend the building the Blockhouse, which I have proposed as necessary to be erected for the Security of York Harbour.

Since the original of which that dispatch was the duplicate was transmitted to Your Grace, Lord Dorchester has arrived in this Country, and I am sorry to find that he does not approve of any works being erected at York, although he has recommended the necessary reserves to be made for such Services in future. It gives me great concern that I cannot coincide in opinion with His Lordship, and that I think some place of Security for the Shipping, Public Offices, and Government Stores, absolutely necessary on Lake Ontario. I therefore avail myself of being at present at Niagara to forward the Plan, elevation, and section, as delineated by Lieut. Pilkington, through New York.

Your Grace, by my report of the 23 Sept., will perceive that this species of fortification I conceive proper to be gradually extended to all the Maritime Posts, which in my Judgment, the Safety and Prosperity of His Majesty's Dominions render it indispensably necessary to be speedily occupied.

I have the honor to be with the most profound Respect, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

His Grace The Duke of Richmond.
Master General Ordnance.

FROM PETER RUSSELL TO J. G. SIMCOE.

NIAGARA, 18th December, 1793.

Sir:—

I have communicated to Mr. Macdonnel Your Excellency's Wishes that the Salt he has on hand and in the Merchant's Stores may be sold and the Produce carried to account, which he promises to do immediately. He desires me at the

same time to express his concern for having incurred Your Excellency's Displeasure, and to assure you that he has done everything in his power to forward the Business intrusted to him. But his means of boiling the Brine have been hitherto so very scanty that he could never make above two Bushels of Salt a day, even when the Health of the People admitted of their working; and that the fresh Provisions bought with the little Salt allowed them contributed greatly to their Recovery. He tells me however that he has now got another Kettle of nearly 200 Gallons, which he proposes to send to the Springs by the first opportunity; and when that is set at work with the others, he has no doubt they will at least pay the present Expense until the Pans expected from England may arrive, when he flatters himself the Produce will answer Your Excellency's fullest expectations.

Mr. Macdonnel desires me likewise to inform Your Excellency that he has purchased upon very reasonable Terms about 300 Acres of Woodland immediately adjoining the Springs at the Head of the Lake, which he is willing to surrender to Government for the price they cost him, as they must be of considerable advantage from their Vicinity whenever Salt Works are established there.

I hope Your Excellency had a safe and pleasant Passage home, for the weather has been remarkably fine here ever since your Departure. Miss Russell begs leave to add her very respectful Compliments and good wishes to those of, Sir,

Your Excellency's ever faithful and obliged Servant,

PETER RUSSELL.

His Excellency Governor Simcoe.

(1793?)

MEMORANDUM BY CHIEF JUSTICE OSGOODE.

(Secret & Confidential)

Should any man from Jealousy or resentment be desirous of cherishing an Opposition to the measures of the King's Lieutenant Governor in Upper Canada he will be anxious that the Management of the Flour Contract shd be in the hands of those Gentlemen who distinguished themselves so much in the Course of the last Session.

The Importance of this Engine is not sufficiently attended to—Grain is the sole produce of the Country and a Market the only Benefit required Give me the Controul of that Market and I will ensure the Result of evry Proposition to be made in a House where evry man is a Farmer The proceeding is not fair—You might as reasonably expect the Business of the Country to be carried through by Ministers with the whole patronage of Government in the Hands of Opposition.

Dixi.

Endorsed:—Chief Justice Osgoode Secret & Confidential.

MEMORANDUM SUBMITTED TO THE ATTENTION OF GOVERNOR SIMCOE.

(1793?)

1. That too many communications cannot be opened to facilitate the access from Lake Ontario to Lake Erie, the principal step towards which is doubtless to people the Country between them as much as possible, the natural attraction

of the River's bank has already filled the side of the Strait. The Chippeway Creek is in part settled, and the Shore from Niagara to the West end of Lake Ontario, as well as from Fort Erie for about 20 miles along that Lake, it seems therefore that the more direct road from the Bay of Quenty to the River La Tranche ought by the assistance of Government to be opened that by an equal distribution of advantages the whole of the intermediate Country may be occupied. The Northern shore of Lake Ontario and the banks of the River La Tranche offer natural means of settlement and when the road between them is settled and accomodated to use, it will serve as an inducement to inhabitants and as a basis or offset from whence may be branched out settlements and communications to Lake Huron. Grand River, Catfish Creek, Kettle Creek offer obvious communications to Lake Erie, a road or path is already known from Point Au Pin and one from Longue Point to the River La Tranche cannot be very difficult to open.

2. As the nature of the conveyance from the Lower to the inhabited parts of the Upper Country will be threefold, by land carriage, by boats, and by decked vessels, it seems of much importance to encourage the use of large boats, waggons, and carts, and to enable them, aided by the advantage of the navigation of the Lakes, to enter into competition with the present mode of conveyance from Montreal by the Ottawa River, over which it will, when the present difficulties are removed, possess many and obvious advantages, nor ought an idea to be entertained of clogging this communication with imports of any kind, the great object of British Commercial enterprise being to procure an adequate return of raw materials for manufactured goods, and in the operation of this exchange, agriculture, navigation, manufacture, and commerce reciprocally maintain and support each other, by furnishing employment to encreased population.

PAT MURRAY.¹

FOREIGN OFFICE JOURNAL OF J. B. BURGESS.

1793, December 28,.....

Mr. Pinckney called; much agitated in consequence of the new instruction to commanders of ships of war and privateers—very anxious to know whether it would be rigorously enforced—insisted strongly on the injustice of such a measure, and on the destructive consequences it must entail on his country, which now would be deprived of every means of exporting its produce, as the Act of Navigation shut them out of our islands, and this new instruction would equally shut them out from those of France; so that nothing but a few inconsiderable markets would be left to them. He enlarged on the unpleasant sensation which this measure must occasion in America; and concluded by saying that this was a matter of so much importance, that he should hope to find Lord Grenville disposed to give him some explanation on it before the sailing of the mail. He did not, however, ask for a conference. He also expressed a wish to receive an answer to the note he had presented, on the subject of the former additional instructions.

(Historical Manuscripts Commission, Dropmore Papers, Vol. II, pp. 488-9.)

¹Probably Colonel Patrick Murray, 1749-1823; ensign, 42nd Regt., 1761; lieutenant, 60th, 1762; town major, Quebec, 1767; captain, 60th, 1775; major, 1784; colonel Argenteuil Division of Militia in Lower Canada; lt. col. 5th Battalion Select Embodied Militia, 1812-5. He commanded the garrison of Detroit in 1789-90 and during the same period acted as president of the Land Board for the District of Hesse.

JOURNAL OF COLONEL ALEXANDER McKEE.

1793.

- September 25th to 26th. Nothing occurred worth mentioning.
 27th. Mr. Clarke arrived from the Glaize, he brings no news.
 30th. A band of Ottawas from the Mouth of the River arrived on their way to the Glaize.
- October 1st. A young man belonging to a band of Ottawas died last night.
 15th. Messengers with painted Tobacco arrived from the Glaize with an account of the approach of Wayne's Army.
 16th. Wrote to Colo. England an account of the Approach of Wayne's Army.
 17th. Kikinathucka arrived with a confirmation of the American Army being near Fort Jefferson.
 18th. Yanigo arrived from Roche de Bout with an account of the little Otter having seen the American Army Four days ago at Fort Jefferson which he describes to be infinitely more numerous than St. Clair's and that he sent directions to the Women to hide their corn and prepare to leave their Village.
 19th. An Ottawa from Roche de Bout passed this morning with painted Tobacco to Egushiwa in order to hasten him to go upwards.
 20th. Received Mr. Chew's letters of the 28th & 31 Augt. An Indian was seen this Evening close under the Bank by the water side who ran to the Woods on being discovered. I suspect him to belong to some unfriendly party near hand and that he was sent as a spy to know the Strength of this part of the Country.
 21st. As soon as it was light I went and discovered the track of the Indian seen last Night, he directed his course towards the South West. Egushiwa arrived to be certainly informed of the Approach of the American Army.
 22d. Two Hurons arrived who had been with the Party under the Little Otter, they relate that they attacked a Convoy of Provisions five days ago under an escort of one hundred and Twenty Men between Fort St. Clair and Fort Jefferson, that they killed between Twenty and thirty and took ten prisoners with all the provisions and sixty horses, they also say there was one Indian among the killed supposed to be a Chikasaw. About an hour after the arrival of the above Hurons a runner arrived express from the Glaize with information that the American Army was coming on very rapidly and were within two days march of the Glaize three days ago. Egushiwa sent off messages to Sandusky and the Ottawas on the Lake requiring them to come on immediately. This evening Mr. Clarke returned from Roche de Bout, and brought one of the prisoners from the Little Otter, he says his name is Connor, a soldier belonging to the 2d U.S. Regiment, that he was one of a party of a hundred & twenty Men sent to escort provisions and Officer's baggage from Fort St. Clair to Fort Jefferson, that on the 17th Instant

in the morning early they were attacked by the Indians, that the greatest part of the soldiers Ran away and dispersed on the first alarm and that the remainder who stood were either killed or taken prisoners. he says he cannot tell the number killed but imagines them to be above Thirty and he was one of the Ten prisoners Taken, he says that General Wayne's Army was at Fort Jefferson, and that it consisted of between Three and four thousand men, including Militia and a hundred Chikasaw Indians, that the Army intrench every night with Felled Trees, &c. and that their marches are much longer than General St. Clair's, sometimes fifteen miles a day. That it was the common conversation among the Officers that they expected to be in Detroit before the Winter, he further adds that the Indians plundered the Waggon of everything valuable, and destroyed what they could not bring away, and sixty Horses, which they took out of the Waggon, and that they left some teams of Oxen behind in the Waggon without killing of them. The Runner who came in this Morning brought me a private Message from the Chiefs at the Glaize desiring me to move from this place immediately, as it was not safe on account of the Rapid movements of the American Army.

23d. The Ottawas of Roche de Bout who have just returned from war came here this day and brought another prisoner and Ten scalps.

24th. The Little Otter in Council this morning gave me up the Prisoner brought in Yesterday called Henry Davids, a German soldier who served under General Burgoyne, and delivered seven scalps to Egushiwa to be sent to the different Lake Indians to hasten them to the defence of their Country.

Egushiwa sets off with them immediately. The prisoner Connor was not given up to me as I expected but taken back again on the Return of the Ottawas this day. Egushiwa informed me yesterday that the alarm we had here a few Nights ago, and which we supposed to be raised by Chikasaws, but he believes to be Senecas, as he had been told before the Cornplanter returned home, that General Washington had offered him three hundred dollars for my scalp, and a sum in proportion for all others concerned in the Indian Department, and he advised me to be very watchful and endeavour to get into a more secure situation.

25th. This morning early two runners, one a Delaware, the other a Shawanoe, came here from the Glaize with information that the American Army was left four days ago between the Ground where St. Clair's defeat was and the Glaize, and that they were making Rapid Marches. They brought painted Tobacco for the last time to the Hurons and Lake Indians which was immediately forwarded by Runners.

27th. Forty three Wyandots arrived on their way to the Glaize, the Wastinoe Chief and two of his men arrived from above with two Scalps and an American Officer's Sword. These

three men fought and drove off a party of forty five horse who charged, there were six of the Wastinoes when the American party first discovered them, but three of them ran to the Woods before a Shot was fired.

28th. The Wyandots held a Council with Captn. Pipe this Morning. One of the Men belonging to the New Boat came up this Morning from the Mouth of the River with letters from Colo. England and Capt. Elliott.

29th. Took my heavy Baggage and papers to the mouth of the River and Encamped near Swan Creek.

31st. One of the large Boats was driven on Shore having parted with her Anchor in a heavy Gale.

Novr.

1st. Dragged all day for the Anchor without success.

2d. Returned to the Rapids where no certain intelligence of the American Army or movements of the Indians had arrived.

5th. Seven Pottowatomies from the head of the River Raisin arrived on their way to the Glaize. They say the greatest part of their Tribe have crossed the Country to the Glaize in consequence of the pressing Messages of Egushiwa; they say that Egushiwa is gone to bring all the Ottawas & Chippawas in the Neighbourhood of Detroit.

7th. Mr. Clarke, whom I sent to the Glaize the third instant, Returned, he brought an account that the American Army is advanced only as far as the bridge six miles on this side Fort Jefferson where they are encamped and intrenched. Mr. Smith arrived express this night from Colo. England.

10th. Mr. Smith returned with my letter to Colo. England.

11th. I sent Mr. Clarke and McPherson to the Glaize to learn the real state of the Indians and American Army before the Close of the Navigation.

14th. Mr. Clarke returned from the Glaize with accounts that some Shawonoe Spies just came in there who say they saw a very large Body of horse at Kettle Creek where the road Forks to the Miamis Towns and the Glaize. That they were coming the Glaize Road, when they left them were a day and a half march from that place. The Chiefs have sent pressing Messages to the Lake Indians to Join them without delay, and have requested my assistance in forwarding them.

The Potowatomies have all returned home from a Belief that the Americans do not intend to come on this Winter, so that the Numbers who are left to oppose this Army are small indeed.

15th. Sent off Simon Girty to the Glaize for intelligence with directions to return the moment he shall have learnt any certain accounts of the American Army. An Ottawa sent by Egushiwa to Roche de Bout called on me on his way to inform me he was sent to acquaint the Ottawas that one of the prisoners, a Frenchman, taken by the Little Otter's party had shot the Indian who owned him, whilst asleep, and Tomahawked the Indian's Wife. 'Tis a considerable loss to this Nation as both the Man and Woman were leaders of Parties in War,

and I greatly fear that all the other prisoners will be sacrificed to avenge this murder.

- 18th. Received letters from Colo. England by Mr. McDonald, a Trader, Two Ottawas arrived from Egushiwa who say he will be here to-morrow.
- 20th. Alarmed this night by the Report of a Mingoe that sculking Indians were seen about here this Evening.
- 21st. Left the foot of the Rapids & got to point au Chene.
- 25th. Received an account from the Glaize by John Watkins a Deserter from the American Army who was sent down to me by the Chiefs that the Militia had gone home and the Light horse returned to Kentucky for the Winter, and that there was not more than twenty days Provisions in Camp for the Army who are yet six miles on this side Fort Jefferson—making huts.
- December 1st. Arrived this Evening at the Mouth of Detroit River after very stormy disagreeable Weather.
- 3d. Sent for some Hurons who returned from the Glaize to be more particularly informed of the situation of the Indians and American Army.
- 4th. Received Nearly the same information as that of the 25th, the Chief I sent for was sick and could not come to me.
- 5th. Proceeded up the River as far as the Petite Cote.
- 7th. Arrived at Detroit.
- 16th. A Seven Nations Indian died last Night at this place.
- 24th. from the 16th to this day No News of any kind.

THOMAS DUGGAN,

Clk. I.D. for Colo. McKee on
Business In the Indian Country.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE BARON DE CARONDELET¹, GOVERNOR GENERAL OF THE LOUISIANAS TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF UPPER CANADA DATED THE SECOND OF JANUARY, 1794 AT NEW ORLEANS.

“Vous aurez sans doute déjà en connaissance des preparatifs qui se font aux chutes de l’Ohio contre la Louisiane, qui d’après une circulaire imprimée à Philadelphie, et adressée par les Jacobins à ses habitants, doit estre attaquée au printemps prochain en même tems par le haut du Mississippi, et par le bas du même: Non obstant que les Etats Unis aient envoyé des ordres aux Gouverneurs du Cumberland et des Etablissements Americains sur l’Ohio de s’opposer à toute entreprise hostile que les Français pourroient tenter contre les Etats de S.M.C. Le Brigadier Clark aient reçu une depeche de Marechal de Camp de la part de Mr. Genet envoié de France aupres des Etats Unis, s’est charge de lever une Corps de cinq mille hommes

¹ This officer in the Spanish service but of French origin, formerly Governor of San Salvador in Guatemala, had taken office in Louisiana on the 30 December, 1791, and remained in control there until July 26, 1797, when he became governor of Quito.

sur l'Ohio, pour attaquer en premier lieu nos Etablissements des Illinois, et le Fort de la Nouvelle Madrid situé à quarante lieues plus bas que celui de St. Louis sur le Mississippi, esperant que avec l'artillerie qu'il prendra dans ces Forts, il sera en état d'attaquer le restant de la Louisiane. Les fonds destinés à cette entreprise montent à un million de piastres, et un nomme de Beau, flamand de nation, fait au Fort Pitt tous les achats necessaires en vivres et munitions pour la dite expedition.

Persuadé que l'intéret de l'Angleterre exige que les Illinois restent au pouvoir de l'Espagne, et qu'il ne peut lui convenir en aucun cas que le Commerce du Misoury et des dits Etablissements passe entre les mains de la France ou des Etats Unis, je m'adreserois a vous, Monsieur, pour en obtenir un secours absolument indispensable pour la conservation des dits Etablissements dans les circonstances ou je me trouve, quand bien même je n'y serois pas autorise par les liaisons de nos Cours, et par l'exemple du Lord Dunmore,¹ Gouverneur des Iles de la Providence, qui menacée dernièrement par une expedition formée à la Nouvelle York, s'est adressée au Gouverneur de l'Havane pour obtenir un renfort.

Je n'ignore pas que ma lettre vous parviendra un peu tard: mais la protestation qui s'est faite des lettres de change pour la valeur des fonds destinés à l'expedition qui se projette, me fait esperer qu'elle eprovera des retards assez conséquents pour vous donner le tems d'approcher de St. Louis des Illinois un Corps de cinq cents hommes, que je crois suffisant pour faire echouer les deseins de L'enemi, étant reunis aux troupes et aux milices des dits Etablissements, d'autant que le fort de St. Louis est garni d'une Artillerie assez considerables tends qui l'enemi en est absolument depourvu, et compte uniquement sur celle qu'il prendra pour suivre ses projects contre le restant de la Province."

Endorsed:—D. In Lord Dorchester's No. 31 to Mr. Dundas of the 7 June, 1794.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

YORK, UPPER CANADA,
Jan. 13th, 1794.

My Lord,

I do myself the honor of transmitting by two Cayhawaga Indians, the enclosed letter from Colonel England, enclosing six papers, which he at different periods had received from Colonel McKee.

I do not understand that any Answer has as yet been returned to the Proposals which the Six Nations forwarded to the President, through General Chapin. I have pleasure in informing Your Lordship that during an interval of favorable weather, Mr. Bouchette, with the assistance of the Officers and soldiers of the Rangers, attempted to get the Onondaga off the shoal, and so far have their efforts been successful, as to free her from the water, to lighten her from her heavy materials, and have placed her in a far more secure position than when she ran aground. In fact, she was got afloat, when unfortunately her cable parted from the anchor she was heaved off upon. I am in hopes that she shall be saved, and without any material injury. The weather has been uncommonly mild here; the navigation between this place and Niagara might have been continued, if it had been necessary,

¹ Formerly Governor of Virginia, then Governor of the Bahamas.

to this moment. This state of the season has occasioned some inconvenience from the resort of the Indians, who by the failure of their usual hunts, have almost been in a starving condition.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble.
Lord Dorchester.

FROM ANTHONY WAYNE TO THE WESTERN INDIANS.

GREENVILLE, 14th January, 1794.

To the Chiefs and Warriors of the Delawares, Shawanoes, and Miami Nations or Tribes of Indians, & all others whom it may concern.

Brothers.

I have received your verbal Message sent by Stephen Young, George White Eyes and another Warrior who were accompanied by Mr. Robert Wilson as your Interpreter.

If Peace is your Object & the wish & desire of your hearts why did not you or some of the principal Chiefs of Your Nation or Nations come forward and speak for yourselves?

The Ears & Heart of the President of the United States (General Washington) are ever open to the voice of Peace, & he has instructed me his Chief Warrior to listen to that welcome voice from whatever quarter it may come, provided it comes from proper Authority & from the Heart.

But as you have only sent a verbal Message by your Runners and as the Delawares, Shawanoes, Miamis & Wyondots have for a long time shut the Ears & hardened their hearts so as not to permit that good voice to enter or to be heard altho' often repeated at different times by several Paths & strongly & loudly re-echoed by the Commissioners of Congress & by all the Chiefs of the Six Nations assembled in Council at the Rapids of the Miamis of the Lake last summer. It will be necessary that you give convincing & unequivocal proofs of your sincere wish & desire for Peace by bringing & delivering up all & every of the American or White Prisoners now in your Possession to the Officer commanding at Fort Recovery, i.e.—on the same ground where the Action of the 4th of November, 1791 took place & that on or before the next full moon which will be on the 14th of February, i.e.—in the course of thirty days from & after this date & immediately sending off Runners to call in & restrain all & every of your Warriors from committing any Murders, Robberies or depredations upon any of the Inhabitants or Citizens of the United States or upon any Escort, Party, or Parties of Troops on their Way to or from any of our Posts or Garrisons wheresoever or whatsoever.

In the mean time the Path shall be kept open so that you may have a free Communication between your Towns & Fort Recovery (the late field of Battle) the only path by which you can come, always taking care to shew a White Flag which my Warriors are ordered to pay particular respect to & receive you as friends & to guard you safe from harm or danger both in coming to that place & from thence here & in returning to your Towns.

All foregoing conditions being punctually complied with upon your part I shall then be convinced of your peaceable dispositions & my heart & Arms will be open to receive & meet you at this place on or before the 14th of February the day above

mentioned in order to fix & determine upon a proper time & place for holding a General Treaty.

In the mean time it is to be well & perfectly understood that the progress of this Army is not to be retarded or molested in its advancing but shall be permitted to move peaceably & quietly with all its apparatus, provisions & stores & every Article & thing necessary for holding the Treaty.

Thus will the door be opened for establishing a permanent & lasting Peace founded upon former Treaties & on the solid basis of honor, equity & Justice & to the mutual interest & entire satisfaction of all parties.

And thus will the War hatchet be buried so deep that it can never again be found.

From your Friend & Brother,

ANTHONY WAYNE.
Major General & Commander in Chief
of the Army of the United States
of America.

Endorsed:—In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 21 of the 28th Feby, 1794.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER IN THE WESTERN
ARMY TO A GENTLEMAN IN HARTFORD, DATED FORT
WASHINGTON, JANUARY 16, 1794.

This goes by an express, who is charged with dispatches from the Commander in Chief, on a very interesting subject to the United States. As Congress are now sitting, they will undoubtedly have the contents before them. Those, who are for peace with the savages in this country, are in high spirits. On the 11th inst., an old Stockbridge Indian, with an Irish merchant, made their public entrée into the cantonment of Green Ville under a white flag. The yellow ambassador speaks very good English. He says that in consequence of what a Mr. Wells (a spy and Indian interpreter to our army) told an old squaw, who he had taken prisoner and sent back, "that the United States were yet willing to treat", he was sent by the Delawares, Tauwais¹, and some other tribes, to see the Great War Chief, and to know if this report was true. He further says that if a negociation can be set on foot, they will treat with us. That they are now tired of the war, and that they are sorry they did not listen to our commissioners last spring. They were received by the Commander in Chief, and treated with a proper manner—told of their weakness and the great power of their adversaries; the Irish merchant remained as a hostage. The Indian with a gentleman belonging to the army went out to meet some chiefs, who were at a small distance from the cantonment. In the evening of the 13th they returned with a son of Buckangelew, the chief of the Delaware nation, and another warrior of equal distinction; from these circumstances we may at least conclude that the enemy are at least serious in their overtures. This corresponds with the intelligence I have lately had from the Indians, thro' a channel that may be depended on. They are a cunning, subtle people and should be cautiously guarded against, at the same time our reputation as a free and liberal nation, might suffer, did we not, even at this period, establish them as our friends and allies.

¹ Ottawas.

I suppose you have been made acquainted with the proposed expedition from Kentucky against the Spaniards; the French agents are now in this country, working up materials. I am told by a respectable gentleman from Danville that 1000 men are absolutely engaged in the State of Kentucky on that business. I hope something may be done to prevent operations of the kind, as if entered into, they must be attended with disagreeable consequences.

(Printed in the New York Daily Gazette, 4 March, 1794.)

FROM PETER RUSSELL TO J. G. SIMCOE.

NIAGARA, 17th January, 1794.

Sir.

I am very sensible of the honor your Excellency has done me in supposing that any suggestions of mine may contribute to the public utility. I am persuaded however that no observations have or can occur to me which your Superior abilities have not already anticipated; else you may be assured that my situation, gratitude and inclination would have equally prompted me to communicate them without being called upon.

The only subject I have presumed to trouble you with my opinions upon was the state of the current Money of this Province, to which my Office of Receiver General has naturally drawn my attention, and I wish I could suggest to Your Excellency a Remedy, as easily as I can account for the scarcity of Specie in circulation. For having scarcely any thing besides gold and silver to give in return for the foreign commodities our necessities demand, it is obvious that their appearance amongst us cannot be of long duration. Consequently the very trifling quantity that is annually sent hither to pay the officers' Salaries and the incidental Expences of Government is eagerly snatched up the instant it gets into circulation, either to complete the Remittances of the Lower Canada Merchants or to purchase Cattle and smuggled Goods from the people of the American States; from neither of whom does any part of it ever return, and as I have lately had the Honor of mentioning to Your Excellency in conversation, the standard for most Gold Coins being at least $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent lower in the States than here (as His Excellency Governor Simcoe is shown in the annexed Table) and the surplus grains being always paid for in change, the latter have this additional Inducement to keep from us all they can lay their hands on. Such constant Drains could not fail to cause much difficulty and inconvenience to the Inhabitants of the Province, if several of the principal Traders had not thrown into Circulation a quantity of their own Notes, to supply a sort of substituted Medium for carrying on its internal Commerce.¹—However as these Notes are generally made payable at one day in the year (10th October) and the Holder has consequently no means of securing himself should the Credit of the Drawer meet with any intermediate shock, they ought certainly to be suppressed if possible. For altho' the greatness of the Risk is manifest to every one, yet their Circulation (Being of necessity submitted to for mutual Convenience) will probably still continue to the Ruin perhaps of many, unless Government can fall upon some means of rendering it unnecessary. But how to effect

¹In the new settlements of America an inconvenient scarcity of specie was an usual complaint, and Upper Canada was not an exception to the rule. In such cases direct barter prevailed, and sometimes produce had to become legal tender. This scarcity of specie and dependence on direct barter, although now less common, was a daily custom in some remote parts of the Province within the memory of persons still living.

this is the Question? The only feasible means that occurs to me at present is either to cause a certain Quantity of Gold, Silver, and Copper to be coined for the peculiar Service of this Province or to permit Paper Money to be struck off and emitted under the authority and sanction of the Legislature. I am not indeed ignorant that both of these have been formerly tried in the time of the French Government, with some fatal consequences to several Individuals. The Evils, however, which then happened, appearing to have been more the result of Mismanagement, Villainy, and the almost Bankrupt State of the Royal Treasury than anything intrinsically bad in the Modes themselves, may without doubt be easily avoided.

For if no more of either Money is introduced into Circulation than the annual Expenditure of Government may amount to, and the Merchant finds no difficulty in purchasing its Bills with this money *at a fixed Exchange* for his April and October Remittances, there will, I trust, be little danger of either Currency sinking in value, unless the Ingenuity of Forgers and Coiners should prove superior to all our Precautions.

Now it will be obvious to Your Excellency that no coined Money can possibly remain with us, unless a nominal value is given to that in Circulation, which shall exceed its intrinsic worth, at least so much as may be necessary to render the carrying it out of the Province a losing Trade. And if no more of *this sort of Money* is coined, than what may be sufficient to pay the Troops of Upper Canada, the Civil List, and the incidental Expences of Government for one year (which may amount, I imagine, to about twenty thousand pounds Sterling) and the Coin accruing from the Coinage (perhaps £6,000 Sterling) be applied to the service of the Public, no injury whatsoever will be sustained from the deficiency of its real Value, and its Circulation may be supported for years without loss or Inconvenience.

It must also be equally obvious that if a paper Currency is adopted, the same Rule of apportioning the Emission to the annual Disbursements of Government should be as strictly adhered to as in the former case; lest more of it may happen to remain in Circulation than the Public Demands may require. For should that at any time happen, the Receiver General and Paymaster may possibly not be prepared to furnish the Merchants with Bills of Exchange for the whole of the Current Money they may bring them, and they in consequence be obliged to part with the surplus in their hands to others at a loss; which is a circumstance that should undoubtedly be guarded against by every means possible.

I shall not take up Your Excellency's time by entering into a more diffuse detail upon this Business, as I flatter myself you will very fully comprehend my Ideas on the Subject from these outlines, and readily judge from them whether either of the schemes are practicable and worth pursuing.

I have the honor to be &c.

PETER RUSSELL.

Standard of gold coins in
the British and
American settlements.

	Guineas.		Half Joes.		Moidores.		Louis d'or.		Dobloons.	
	dwt.	grs.	dwt.	grs.	dwt.	grs.	dwt.	grs.	dwt.	grs.
In the Canadas.....	5	8	9	3	6	20	5	3	17	4
In the American States..	5	6	9		6	18	5	5	17	4
Difference.....	2		3		2					

FROM THOMAS GREY TO J. G. SIMCOE.

NEW YORK, January 18th, 1794.

My Dear Sir:—

I arrived here on the 8th of this month since which time I have been in daily expectation of sailing for the West Indies.

The vessel which Congress dispatched last August to the National Convention, requesting that Mr. Genet should be recalled is returned to Philadelphia. The answer she brings has not as yet transpired but is generally supposed to be favorable to the requisition of the United States. Mr. Genet immediately published a *bulletin* announcing the capture of the Duke of York and his Army and Toulon's being retaken. This was sent express to Mr. Hauterive, the French Consul here. Unfortunately a vessel from Ostend had arrived the day before which brought accounts directly opposite. These efforts to rouse the people I understand are not uncommon. The consequence of them is a mob's assembling in the street, marching to the coffee house with another gentleman when they were in the height of their joy.

The only change in the Government of this Country since I was here last, has been occasioned by the resignation of Mr. Jefferson whose place is supplied by Mr. Randolph, formerly Attorney General.¹

The Governor² in his Speech to the Legislature at Albany, expresses his concern at not being able to congratulate them on the flourishing condition of their Western Settlements, the commerce being greatly injured and the agriculture retarded by the detention of the Posts, and observes that in defiance of all treaties, individuals held lands in the United States under the taxation of the British Government. He alludes I imagine, to the saw mill which is bobbing up and down on Col. Ogden's³ property. You know he said he would make a state matter of it.

I have the honor to be &c.

THOS. GREY.

Endorsed: Col. Grey.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM COLONEL McKEE TO COLONEL ENGLAND, DATED FOOT OF THE RAPIDS 21ST JANY, 1794.

"I take the earliest opportunity that has offered since my arrival here to inform you that the Reports which were in circulation in Detroit relative to the Conduct of the Indians in this part of the Country seem to be without any foundation except that at Christmas or New Year's day some Munseys were importunate for a few Bottles of Rum which one of the Traders for some time refused but at

¹ Edmund Randolph, 1753-1813, son of John Randolph, the last royal Attorney General of Virginia, who was an unwavering loyalist and fled to England in 1775 to end his days; a delegate to Congress, 1779-82; Governor of Virginia, 1786-8; Attorney General of the United States, 27 Sept., 1789-2 Jany. 1794; Secretary of State, January, 1794 until August, 1795, when his resignation was required by Washington in consequence of a captured despatch from Fauchet, the French Ambassador, which indicated that he could be bribed to favour that country.

² George Clinton, Governor of the State of New York.

³ Samuel Ogden.

length sold them on their promise of payment, upon the whole from all the information I can yet collect the Indians in General do not appear to have altered their Conduct since I left them in the fall of last year."

Endorsed:—In Lt. Govr Simcoe's No 21 of the 28th Feby, 1794.

(2)

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO J. G. SIMCOE.

QUEBEC, 27th January, 1794.

Sir,

I have caused enquiry to be made relative to the Mills built on the lands claimed by Mr. Ogden—Enclosed are Copies of letters from Colonel Campbell and Mr. Lorimier. I treated Mr. Ogden with all civility, but gave him no Answer relative to this business, immediately wrote to Mr. Hammond & acquainted him that I should not suffer the Governor of New York, or any other person to exercise jurisdiction or sovereignty there, and that upon the first attempts I should oppose it, and if necessary with the whole Force I could collect. The wanton cutting of Timber, I however disapprove, and am to recommend your taking every measure to discourage it. Mr. Ogden, I take for granted, will receive a proper Answer from Mr. Hammond, who is the best qualified to speak the Language that will be approved of by the King's Ministers.

I am with regard, &c.

DORCHESTER.

Col. Simcoe.

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO J. G. SIMCOE.

QUEBEC, 27th January, 1794.

Sir,

I received your information of the loss of the Schooner Onondago on the 8th of Decmr. off York or Toronto, with some concern, and I have ordered another to be built of nearly the same size, that whatever may be saved from the wreck may suit this new vessel. The loss is more unfortunate as the demand this year for the transport of Military Stores and Provisions over Lake Ontario, cannot be less than it was the last, when a thousand barrels of Provisions, I am told, were left at Kingston and not forwarded to their places of destination, in addition to which I purposed to relieve the 5th Regiment; however, I do not quite despair of accomplishing all this, with strict attention that none of the King's Vessels or craft be turned aside from their primary Object of transporting the Troops, Military Stores, and Provisions, to the Upper Posts, agreeable to the several Orders and Regulations. All Establishments at York, London, &c., not ordered by the General in Chief Command, are to be considered as Provincial, and in maturing these Projects, you will, no doubt, not only consult with the respectable People who are well acquainted with their own Provincial Interests, but at the same time co-operate with the Council and Assembly. This co-operation is necessary, and will greatly

facilitate the carrying your various Plans into execution. When Upper Canada shall equip a Provincial Marine, it will be under the command of the Executive Council of that Province, whether he is a Military man or not, and of course will be employed to forward all the Provincial business, But all the Armed Vessels and other craft, built by the General in the Chief Command, for the purpose of transporting Troops, Military Stores, and Provisions over the Lakes, or aiding the Service at the different Posts, must be under the Command of the said General, be his rank what it may, and whether he has a Civil Commission or not. When Circumstances shall permit I shall order part of the Troops from the Upper Posts down this way; but the state of the Country is such, that for the present I shall not weaken the Forces on the Treaty Line in any respect nor will I make any alterations in the Regulations concerning the Armed Vessels. You will be pleased, therefore, to see that, while they diligently attend to their primary Object, as aforementioned, they navigate half-armed; which I think sufficient to protect them against piratical attempts; at the same time, tho' I am in hopes we shall live at Peace with our Neighbours, you will take particular care that the remainder of the Guns, & Military Stores belonging to the Vessels, are preserved complete and together, agreeably to Orders, for a full and prompt Armament, that should European Politics or other Events render the measure necessary, they may speedily be equipped to the War Establishment. The Gun Boats which have lately been fitted up, if you find the urgency of the transport Service requires it, may be employed unarmed, as in that State they will carry a greater quantity of Stores.

I am with regard, &c.

DORCHESTER.

Col. Simcoe.

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO J. G. SIMCOE.

QUEBEC, 27th January, 1794.

Sir,

I am to return you thanks for the information contained in your Letters of the 10th November, 2nd, 3rd, and 6th Dec., relative to the state of the Country, and regret much that all endeavours to conciliate matters between the Indians and the United States, have proved ineffectual. With respect to the Lands upon the Grand River, promised to the Six Nations by Sir Frederick Haldimand, it was judicious not to say anything to which an improper turn might be given, for it is of consequence to keep the different Tribes in good humor, as many are on the watch to pervert the King's benevolent intentions towards them. The intention of Government in giving lands was to make them as beneficial to the Indians as possible, and to do that, it was necessary that the Grant should contain Restrictions that will put them out of the way of Imposition. It would be very improper to suffer this Tract to get into the hands of Land Jobbers. If it must be resold, the Crown should repurchase it. It were much to be wished that Government possessed all the Lands along the Lake, the want of which will prevent the Communication of the Settlements. It is true that Brant did say we might have them, but as it was not with that cordiality and good will that were to be wished for at the moment, and I think it would not be advisable to press it at any time, if disagreeable to them. In all negotiations of consequence with the Indians, the Super-

intendent General, if possible, should be present, and as Sir John Johnson is expected upon the opening of Navigation, if the whole of this business can be put off till he comes, it will be best. Enquiry has been made relative to the purchase at Matchedash Bay, a Plan, (Copy of which I believe was given to you) has been found in the Surveyor General's Office, to which is attached a blank deed, with the names or devices of three Chiefs of the Mississaga Nation, on separate pieces of paper annexed thereto, and witnessed by Mr. Collins, Mr. Kotte, a Surveyor, since dead, and Mr. Lines, Indian Interpreter, but not being filled up, is of no validity, or may be applied to all the Land they possess; no Fraud has been committed or seems to have been intended. It has, however, an omission which will set aside the whole transaction, and throw us entirely on the good faith of the Indians for just so much Land as they are willing to allow, and what may be further necessary must be purchased anew, but it will be best not to press that matter or shew any anxiety about it.

I am with regard, &c.

DORCHESTER.

Col. Simcoe.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM COLONEL McKEE TO COLONEL
ENGLAND DATED FOOT OF THE RAPIDS, 28TH JANY, 1794.

"I am just informed that the Delawares and Willson whom I mentioned in my letter of the 21st Jany are returned from the Forts, and that they have brought a Speech to the Indians from Genl Wayne a Copy of which is herewith enclosed.

"It does not appear that any of the other nations were concerned in sending the message they carried and I apprehend that even the Delawares were prevailed on to open a Communication by similar means.

"In consequence of this Speech a Council will be held by the Chiefs of the different Nations in two or three days."

(3)

Endorsed:—In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No 21 of the 28th Feby, 1794.

FROM ALEXANDER McKEE TO JOSEPH CHEW.

MIAMIS RAPIDS, 1st. Feb. 1794.

Sir,

Since my letter to you in December last which was forwarded by some of the 7 Nations of Canada returning home various reports have been circulated in Detroit by the Traders Principally stating that the Indians in this part of the Country had thrown aside all respect for the British Traders and were plundering their stores and robbing them of their property. From accounts so alarming it was thought expedient that I should again return to this place to learn the truth of these reports, and to discover the cause of the conduct of the Indians. On my arrival I had the satisfaction to find that at no period had the Indians behaved themselves with more propriety & Quietness, and that all the Reports were falsehoods, calculated probably by one Trader to obtain an advantage over another.

By the enclosed speech of General Wayne which I got from the Partner of Wilson, who was interpreter to the messengers, you will perceive that the Delawares have sent a Message to the American Army respecting peace. None of the other Nations as I am informed were acquainted with the real design of this Message until the return of the Runners who carried it, but I understand they have since agreed to hold a Council to deliberate thereon & I have sent a confidential person to attend the result of that Council, which I will not fail to communicate to you for the Information of His Excellency the Commander in Chief by the most expeditious mode which the nature of the Country will admit of at this season of the year, being of opinion from the Jealousies and divisions sown among the Nations last summer, that the opposition to the American Army establishing themselves in this Country is every day growing less and it is now very likely they will be able to accomplish it in a very short time.

I am, &c.

A. McKEE.

J. Chew Esqr.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LT. COLONEL ENGLAND, COMMANDANT OF DETROIT, DATED FEBRUARY 2d, 1794 TO HIS EXCELLENCY, LT. GOVERNOR SIMCOE.

"Since I wrote, no reports of any consequence reached me till the 8th of January, when I was informed that the Delawares had decided on making overtures for Peace with the United States and that four of them authorized by the rest accompanied by an Interpreter had set out for Fort Jefferson for that purpose, this circumstance added to some ill-grounded Reports of Robberies and depredations committed by Indians on the Traders in the neighbourhood of the Foot of the Rapids, having occasioned an Alarm among the Merchants here, induced me to request Colonel McKee to return to the Foot of the Rapids, and by his influence restore security to those in trade, and enquire into the particulars of the overtures for Peace said to have been made by the Delawares.

"Since the Colonel has been at the Foot of the Rapids, I received two letters from him, Copies of which I have the honor to enclose you, the latter accompanied with a Copy of an Address from Major General Wayne to the Tribes of Indians who are considered hostile to the United States.

"By the Address Your Excellency will perceive that General Wayne has built a Fort on the Ground where the Action was fought on the 4th of November, 1791, which he calls Fort Recovery; it would also appear that he has established a new Post which he calls Grenville;¹ from which he dates his Address; I have not yet been able to learn where Grenville is."*

* His winter Camp, six miles in front of Port Jefferson, eighty miles from Fort Washington.

Endorsed:—In Lt. Governor Simcoe's No 21 of the 28th Feby, 1794.

(1)

¹ Greenville.

FROM SIR GEORGE YONGE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

WAR OFFICE, 3 February, 1794.

My Lord,

The Regiments under your Lordship's Command, having beating orders, authorizing them to recruit in the British Provinces in North America, and it being probable that a considerable body of Men might be raised in those Provinces towards the Augmentation of the respective Corps, if it were clearly understood there, that the high Bounty now allowed for Recruits, extends to Men enlisted in America, as well as in this Country, I am commanded by His Majesty to acquaint Your Lordship with the following particulars.

The Recruiting Officers will be allowed £15 for every Recruit raised by them, and finally approved at Headquarters: for Recruits rejected, subsistence only will be allowed: for deserters not approved, neither Bounty nor Subsistence may be charged; the Bounty to be given to each Recruit raised for the Augmentation is not to exceed ten Guineas, the remainder of the £15 per man, being to answer the Contingent Expences and loss attendant on Recruiting.

If it should be found necessary that any of the Recruiting Parties should proceed by Sea to their respective Stations I am to apprise Your Lordship that it is not usual to admit the charges from one Foreign Station to another in the Accounts delivered in to this Office, but that they are under the control of the Commander in Chief, in whose accounts with the Treasury, the charges as approved by him are to be stated.

Your Lordship will be pleased to signify the above to the several Corps serving in Canada, and to save time, I shall send a Copy of this Letter to Major General Ogilvie.¹

GEORGE YONGE.

Right Honble
Lord Dorchester.

FROM ALEXANDER GRANT TO D. W. SMITH.

DETROIT, February 3rd, 1794.

I have the honor of writing you for the information of His Excellency Colonel Simcoe and yourself of the proceedings of the Marine Department at this Post.

The Schooner Dunmore is under repair to be rebuilt from the Lower futtocks, which repair the Assistant Master Builder says will take ninety working days with Ten Shipwrights which we luckily happened to have in the Department with those in the Shipyard and belonging to the Vessels.

The Sloop Felicity is supposed to take thirty days to repair her with the same number of Carpenters. So that with fitting out the two snows, craft, Batteaux and Boats I am afraid it will advance in the Summer before the repairs of the Dunmore & Felicity are completed.

I have sent two parties of nine Seamen each to the woods to cut and collect the following timber, pine logs, ship timber; likewise timber for Batteaux, boats,

¹ Major General James Ogilvie, commanding the troops in Nova Scotia.

oar and handspike stuff. We are making use of the ship timber that was cut two years ago for the repairs. Every other matter in the Department goes on as usual.

I have the honor to be, &c.

ALEXANDER GRANT.

Lieut. D. W. Smith, Asst. D.Q.M. General.

FROM THOMAS DUGGAN TO JOSEPH CHEW.

INDIAN DEPARTMENT, DETROIT, 3rd February, 1794.

Sir:

I enclose you three Journals of Indian Affairs for June, September and December Quarters, all which as well as the other papers now transmitted I am obliged to sign on account of Colonel McKee being in the Indian Country where his presence is very requisite on account of the Critical Situation of the Indians. I enclose also a copy of General Wayne's Speech to the Chiefs of the Delawares, Shawanese, &c. which was brought in Three days ago, and tho' I have it not Officially from Col. McKee yet I thought its very proper to have it transmitted to You, all I have to say to you in addition to this speech is that Bob Wilson who went with Young & White eyes as Interpreter to Fort Grenville reports that, that Fort is garrisoned by four thousand Men, that it is two Miles in Circumference and that three hundred Men mount guard there daily; That Fort Recovery is Garrisoned by three hundred and that Wayne and his Warriors will drink of our Waters early in the spring, there is not One belonging to the Indian Department here at present but myself; they are all in the Miamis Country and Col. McKee would have been here before the departure of the Express were it not for the absolute necessity of his being in the Indian Country at this juncture.

You shall have every intelligence concerning the Indian Affairs in this Quarter and by the earliest Opportunities; I have nothing more to add than that I remain, &c.

THOMAS DUGGAN.

P.S.

PROCEEDINGS OF A COUNCIL OF THE SIX NATION INDIANS, &c HELD AT BUFFALOE CREEK ON THE SEVENTH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1794.

Present.

The Chiefs of the Mohawks, Cayugas, Onondagoes, Senecas, Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Delawares, &c., &c., &c. Brigade Major Littlehales, Captain Bunbury, and the officers of the Indian Department, General Chapin, Mr. Parish, Interpreter, and Mr. Colt of the United States.

After going through the usual ceremony of congratulations, the Cow Killer, a Seneca Chief Spoke as follows.

Brothers:

(Addressed to General Chapin) We are happy the great Spirit has protected you to and from the United States, with our proceedings to the President, relative to a Boundary line, and his (the President's) answer thereon.

Brothers: (Addressed to the British) We are exceedingly glad to see you the King, our Father's people here, as we sent for you to request you to listen to the answer of the President of the United States. Now Brother of the United States proceed.

Mr. Chapin returned the compliment to the Chiefs, adding that he was glad they had sent for the British to hear the Speech about to be delivered, observing that the distemper in Philadelphia and Congress not being assembled, occasioned his delay in returning. Genl. Chapin then directed Mr. Colt to read the following Speech which was interpreted by Mr. Parish, accompanied with a large Belt of White Wampum, and thirteen strings of Black Wampum.

To the Sachems, Chiefs and Warriors of the Six Nations.

Brothers:

A copy of your proceedings at Buffaloe Creek on the eighth day of October last hath been received by General Chapin. These proceedings contain the sentiments of several Chiefs of the various Tribes who were assembled at the great Council fire which was kindled at the Rapids of the Miami the last Summer, and in addition to this information you add in your meeting of the tenth of the same Month your desire of a Boundary which you say will be further explained by Genl. Chapin. All these Communications have been submitted to your Father General Washington, the President of the United States, who desires the Six Nations to receive his sincere and hearty thanks for their assurance and acts of friendship to the United States. While your Father, the President, has observed with great pleasure the pains you have taken to effect a peace between the United States and the hostile Indians he is at the same time very sorry that any circumstance should have prevented the accomplishment of a Measure affecting the happiness of both parties; peace is best for the white as well as the red people, and it is always the cause of sorrow among Good men when Misunderstandings arise which create wars. The United States consider that they have taken all the requisite means to obtain a Peace which their duty or humanity required, they appointed respectable and wise characters as Commissioners, accompanied by a Deputation of friends the Known Advocates for Peace. Those Commissioners under discouraging Circumstances persevered for a long time to obtain an Interview with the great Council of the Indians. This being ineffectual they made in good faith such liberal offers in writing to ensure the future Comfort and prosperity of the Indians, as were never before given to the Indians of North America. These Circumstances being known, for ever acquit the United States from all imputations of desiring a Continuance of the War. The same principles of moderation and humanity which before dictated the Offers to the Indians, and a Sincere friendship for the Six Nations, have induced your Father, the President, to consider attentively your propositions for a New Boundary, although the lines you mention are considered as liable to considerable objections, yet it is hoped, when all difficulties shall be discussed at a Treaty or Conference, by Moderate Men with upright views that some agreement may be made which would lead to a general peace; on this Ground the President consents that a conference should be held at Venango, on the fifteenth or middle of next May. It is expected that the Chiefs of the Six Nations and Chippawas will attend and the Chiefs of all such of the Western Tribes as the Said Six Nations and Chippawas may invite, and if the hostile Tribes should think proper to attend they will be well received, and treated as people ought to be, who are holding friendly Treaties, but it cannot be unknown to you, by the late abortive efforts to negotiate, the American Army was restrained from Offensive operations against those Tribes who appear deaf to the voice of reason and peace, such a Conduct will not be ob-

served by the United States again; This must be clearly understood, let it be remembered therefore there is no deception on our parts; Our Army must be left entirely at liberty to act as circumstances may require, the scene of operations however will be far distant from Venango, the proposed place of meeting. It is to be observed that in case any of the Western Indians attend at Venango, it would be proper that they should proceed by water at least as far East as Presqu'Isle, and thence to French Creek by Land. It would be dangerous for them to proceed from the Westward by land, for the same reason they gave last year, namely that the said paths are bloody paths.

Brothers: If you agree to the time and place of meeting it will be proper that you should immediately signify the same to General Chapin, that due preparations may be made at the same place.

Given at the City of Philadelphia by order of the President of the United States, this twenty fourth day of December, one thousand seven hundred and ninety three.

H. KNOX,
Secretary of War.

After this Speech was read and interpreted by Mr. Parish, Mr. Chapin said
Brothers:

Having been absent from home near one year, I hope to have an answer as soon as convenient to the President's speech, and I have procured for each of you, who attended the Council at the Miamis Rapids, last summer, as you have been at a great deal of trouble, a Suit of Cloaths, some ammuniton, and some few articles for your distressed Women & children, which I recommended to and requested the President would grant as necessary for your Services and to which he readily consented. I hope these things have arrived at my house by this time.

The Cow Killer (a Seneca Chief) then spoke.

Brothers of the United States:

We have heard the speech you have brought with you, but now remove the Council fire to our Castle, to take it into our private Consideration; This chief then took the speech and Belt delivered by General Chapin and gave it to Brigade Major Littlehales, desiring he would peruse it attentively, till he was perfectly acquainted with its contents.

Major of Brigade Littlehales then addressed himself to the Chiefs as follows, returning the strings of Black & White Wampum that were sent him to attend the Council.

Brothers of the Six Nations and your Allies:

Agreeably to your invitation communicated to me, in the absence of the Governor from Niagara, (and for his information) Soliciting my attendance with some of the King your Father's Officers, together with the Officers of your own Department, we immediately proceeded here, and thank the great Spirit for bringing us safe to your Council fire.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Adjourned.

Proceedings of the Council continued at Buffaloe Creek the Ninth day of February 1794.

Present as before on the 7th Instant.

Cow Killer—Speaker—(Mr. Parish) Interpreter.

Brothers:

(To General Chapin) We have taken your Speech into Consideration and our

eldest Brother Captain Brant is to relate the result of our meeting in private Council yesterday, in Consequence thereof.

Captain Brant then spoke as follows with nine strings of White Wampum.

Brothers:

I now address myself to you (Brigade Major Littlehales) in behalf of the King our Father, and thank the good Spirit for bringing us again together in Council, as what we are going to say, we wish the World to know.

Brothers: You have both heard the Message we delivered to our Brothers of the United States last Fall, relative to a Boundary Line, and we expected a positive answer from you, Brothers of the United States whether you would accept it or not.

Brothers: When we delivered the Message, last Fall to you, for the United States, we had first taken it into serious consideration, we spoke the language of our hearts, and the Great Spirit knew our minds, all the Six Nations were of the same opinion, and many of our Western Brethren, and we were well assured that had the United States accepted our proposed Boundary, Peace would certainly have taken place.

Brothers: The Speech you have brought us, has given us great uneasiness, we are entirely at a loss how to act, we fully expected a direct answer to our proposals of a boundary line, now we are much distressed that you have brought but half an answer to our proceedings. The kindling a Council fire, at a distant place, is what we are not prepared to give you a reply to.

Brothers: Provided the United States had accepted our Boundary Line, we should have sent immediately to Our Western Brethren who know our Sentiments, and we would have attended your Council fire and confirmed that Boundary Line.

Brothers: Make your minds easy, but in consequence of the importance of your Speech containing very weighty matters, we must deliberate seriously upon it, we cannot give you an immediate answer, we must have a General Council of all the Chiefs.

Only few are now present, and we should all be together, the reason of so much counselling at different times proceeded from so small a number of our Sachems and Chiefs being assembled, which is the cause that we are still in trouble.

Brothers: You General Chapin live near us, we have two months and a half to consider of your Speech, and by that time we will give you a final answer, we pray the Great Spirit that these difficulties may terminate to the happiness of both parties.

Brothers: You requested us to give an answer as soon as convenient, but in such a very weighty business it is impossible to give one directly—With regard to Provisions there is plenty in the Country, and if we should agree to meet you, you need not be particular about what we shall consume, and even in case we should meet you, we expect nothing but provisions.

Brothers: We now conclude and we pray the Great Spirit to protect you safe home, and we desire you will bear it constantly in your mind that you will soon receive an answer.

The nine Strings of Wampum were then delivered to General Chapin who immediately replied.

Brothers:

I thank the Great Spirit for preserving us and am happy that we are again met together on this important business.

Brothers: You have delivered a Speech in answer which has been taken down in writing. I shall return to Canandorque my seat, and will wait patiently for your answer.

Brothers: The matter is of Great importance and it gives me pleasure that you consider it so, and that you mean to call together all your chiefs and wise men to consider it seriously.

Brothers: You may depend upon it that your Father General Washington wishes for Peace, and the reason he wishes the proposed Treaty is, that all the Indian Nations may talk it over together in a most serious manner, it is his desire that those who are at war and all other Indians may come to the proposed place, to discuss where the difficulty lays that peace may be made; he hopes that the good work of the Six Nations to bring about a peace may be attended with success.

Brothers: I shall return home and wait your answer and hope all nations will be agreed, and that things may be settled in such a way to the satisfaction of the United States and the Indians.

Major of Brigade Littlehales then addressed the Indians in the following words.

Brothers of the Six Nations and your Allies, Sachems, Chiefs and Warriors.

I shall faithfully repeat the proceedings of this Council fire to the Lieutenant Governor, whose attention to your interests, in which He obeyed the King your Father's commands, has been constant and manifest; as a substantial proof thereof, I cannot avoid calling to your recollection how cheerfully and readily he complied with the requests you desired me to make to him on your behalf, when at your general Council assembled here last winter, corresponding also with the wishes of your Western Brethren and all the Indian Confederacy.

Brothers: In order to enable you to meet the United States, you asked of him such assistance as he knew you would stand in need of, particularly Provisions.

Brothers: In consequence he gave orders that you might be amply supplied with provisions to assist you to prosecute so good a work as the establishment of peace.

His sentiments towards you are the same as have been expressed by Lord Dorchester, who is the Great Chief of all the King your Father's people in British America, and I repeat to you what His Lordship said to the Deputies of your nations a very few summers ago at Quebec, "I leave the command of this Country to Major General Clarke, who will take the same care of you that I have done, for that is the will of the King your Master. His benevolence and friendship for you are always the same, and whoever is the instrument of the King's power in this Country will always fulfil his intentions."

You see therefore, Brothers, it is His Excellency Colonel Simcoe's duty as well as his inclination to shew the most cordial friendship and regard for the Indian Americans.

Brothers: When the Governor received your Belt of Wampum to lead him to the Council Fire at Sandusky—He answered, "that if the Government of the United States acceded to your request, his personal attendance would probably not be wanting without which it would have been fruitless" and not consistent with the dignity of his station, but he was not unmindful of your Interest.

Brothers: You desired that all Maps, Records, Treaties & Documents relating to the Indians might be brought to Sandusky knowing that you could confidently depend on the King your Father, you therein shewed your Wisdom founded on experience that you may confidently depend upon the King your Father, for He never will deceive you, and so strongly is the love of truth impressed by His Example and orders on all who are entrusted with his power in this Country that the Youngest of our Chief Warriors would be degraded from the character was he capable of deceit or falsehood.

Brothers: When at Quebec a few Summers ago you told the Commander in Chief Lord Dorchester "There are people who say the King your Father, when he made peace with the United States gave away your land to them." What was His Lordship's answer? He said, "I cannot think that the Government of the United States would hold that language, it must be from ill informed individuals."

Brothers: The truth of this answer of Lord Dorchester, has been fully confirmed by General Washington the President of the United States and particularly by Colonel Pickering, one of the late Commissioners who duly authorized by him formally addressed the following words to the five Nations. "We claim no Lands but what belong to the Nations who sold to us, we claim not a foot of the Lands of any of the Nations, with whom we have yet held no Treaties."

This clearly shews, Brothers, that what had been told you, is proved to be just and true:—The Documents, Records and Treaties between the British Governors in former times, and your wise Forefathers, of which in consequence of your request, authentic copies were transmitted to you all established the Freedom of your Nations.

Brothers: These authentic papers prove that no King of Great Britain ever claimed absolute power or sovereignty over any of your Lands or Territories that were not fairly purchased or bestowed by your Ancestors at public Treaties, they likewise prove that your national independency has been preserved and that the rights resulting from such Independency have been reciprocally and constantly acknowledged at the Treaties between the French formerly possessors of part of this Continent and the Crown of Great Britain; and it will appear when the war in North America arose between the French and the British which terminated in the King your Father's obtaining possession of Canada that it commenced in consequence of the French Nation invading the Stipulations by which the Indian Americans were acknowledged to be Independent.

Brothers: You need scarcely be reminded that after the peace of 1763 The King your Father uniformly followed the just conduct of his predecessors, to prevent all future encroachments, the Treaty of Fort Stanwix was by his direction made with the several Indian Nations by that wise and good man, your late Superintendent Genl. Sir William Johnson; the boundary there agreed upon, as it was traced with his own hands was forwarded to you, at the Confederate Council at the Miamis Rapids last Summer, with all later Treaties between your Nations and the United States *you* and *they* must be best acquainted.

Brothers: You plainly perceive that no interpretation of the boundary line settled between the King your Father and the United States, can have a shadow of pretext to consider your Independency as injured or that your territories were bargained away as the Price of Peace.

Brothers: The Lieutenant Governor directed your Superintendents and officers of your Department as you desired to attend your Council fire at Sandusky and to aid you in whatever matters you should require assistance.

Brothers: With a view to facilitate so desirable a work as that of peace between you and the United States He ordered the officers of the King's Ships to give every assistance to their Commissioners in their passage to and from Sandusky and he afforded them all the convenience in his power to exemplify the sincere and ardent desire he had to contribute to so great a purpose as the general tranquility.

Brothers: I am well assured that the Lieutenant Governor most heartily prays the Almighty Being the common Father of all Mankind to give Wisdom and Union to your Councils and He most fervently hopes that peace may be settled on

such honorable, just and lasting foundations as may be for the common interests, and general benefit of all the people on this Continent.

Given at Buffaloe Creek on the
Ninth day of February 1794.

After the Speech was delivered and Interpreted the Council fire was covered up and the meeting was dissolved; The proceedings were then revised in the presence of General Chapin¹, Mr. Colt and Mr. Parish², Captain Brant and the officers of the Indian Department the principal part of which I had minuted myself in Council and dictated to Mr. Sheehan the remainder; this proving satisfactory to Mr. Chapin He requested a copy to be taken of all the proceedings which was accordingly done by Mr. Colt except my speech owing to there not being sufficient time to copy it. On my desiring the original and copy to be compared I found a trivial deviation in *words only*, in part of Mr. Chapin's *last* Speech.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

FROM REVEREND DR. JOHN STUART TO THE RIGHT REVEREND
DR. WHITE, BISHOP OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, PHILADELPHIA.

(Extract)

Right Revd. Sir,

I have been inexpressibly anxious for the Safety of you & your Family, ever since the News of the fatal Disorder that prevailed in Philada. reached us . . .

I arrived in this Town a fortnight ago, being ordered to attend our new Bishop, who is not yet come.—He is appointed Bishop of Upper & Lower Canada, with the same powers granted to Bp. Inglis, with a Salary of £2000 P. Ann:—'tis said he is a Scholar, Gentleman, Orator & Zealous Churchman. We expect great Things from him; especially, that he will rescue our Church from the Contempt into which it is fallen, by the Prudence & Wisdom of his Counsels & the Splendor of his Example.—He is authorized to appoint Commissaries under him, with a Stipend of £150 P. Ann. and has already bestowed that Office (for Upper Canada) upon me.—Altho this comes rather late in Life, yet, if I am spared for a few Years, it will enable me to make a decent Provision for my Family.—'Tis said that he will promote Literature by establishing an University here, which is much wanted. .

My Situation now equals my most sanguine Wishes—my whole Salary is £350 Sterlg. per Ann: My Children are all Healthy & promising—my Lands, improving in value,—my Situation pleasant & my Congregation numerous and still increasing.—I meet with the Countenance & Patronage of my Superiors, & am Chaplain to the Legislative Council of the Upper Province.

I am, &c.,

JNO. STUART.

Montreal, 8th Feby. 1794.

(From a copy in possession of Dr. A. H. Young, Toronto.)

¹ Israel Chapin, 1740-95, born at Hatfield, Mass.; served in the Continental army, 1775-8, and attained the rank of brigadier-general, settled at Canandaigua, N.Y., 1789; General Agent for Indian Affairs of the United States, 1791-5. His son, Captain Israel Chapin, succeeded him as Superintendent and Agent for Indian Affairs in the State of New York.

² Jasper Parrish, 1767-1836, born in Connecticut; a prisoner with the Six Nations, 1778-84; adopted by David Hill; interpreter for the United States, 1790-1803; sub-agent to the Six Nations, 1803-33; died at Canandaigua, N.Y., 12 July, 1836.

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO THE SEVEN NATIONS OF
LOWER CANADA

Réponse de Son Excellence le Lord Dorchester, aux Sept Villages du Bas Canada venus en députation de la part de toutes les Nations du pays d'en haut excepté les Chaouanous, Miamis et Loups, rendue en Conseil au Chateau de St. Louis à Québec le 10e. Février, 1794.

Mes Enfans:

J'ai bien pesé vos paroles, et me voici préparé à y répondre.

Mes Enfans: Vous m'avez dit que vous êtes les Députés, les sept Villages du bas Canada, au nom de toutes les Nations des pays d'en haut, qui ont envoyé des Députés au Conseil général des Miamis à l'exception des Chaouanous, Miamis et Loups.

Mes Enfans: Vous me rappelez de leur part ce qui s'est passé au Conseil qui fut tenu à Québec peu de jours avant mon dernier départ pour l'Angleterre, quand je leur ai promis de représenter au Roi leur Père leur situation et leurs souhaits; en même tems je leur ai dit que j'espérois les voir bientôt débarrassé de tous les griefs dont ils se plaignoient de la part des Etats Unis, par une paix juste et durable.

Mes Enfans: Je me souviens bien de tout ceci, je me souviens qu'ils m'ont montré, sur une carte, la ligne de séparation qu'ils souhaitoient avoir entre eux et les Etats Unis, et sur laquelle ils consentiroient avec satisfaction à leur faire la paix.

Mes Enfans: Je m'attendois à être instruit de la part des Etats Unis, de ce qu'ils souhaitoient pour eux-même, et que je pusse vous reconcilier ensemble et vous faire bons amis.

Mes Enfans: J'ai attendu longtems, et écouté avec grande attention mais je n'ai pas entendu une seule parole de leur part.

Mes Enfans: J'espérois aussi que la ligne qui fut proposée l'année 1783, pour nous séparer des Etats Unis, et qu'ils ont rompu aussitôt que la paix fut signée, seroit raccommodée, ou qu'une nouvelle ligne seroit faite à l'amicable, mais ceci n'a pas eu lieu.

Mes Enfans: Depuis mon retour je trouve qu'il n'y a plus d'apparence de ligne du tout. De la manière que les Sujets des Etats Unis, s'avancent, parlent, et agissent de ce côté-ci, aussi bien que de ce que j'apprends de leur conduite sur les bords de la mer, je ne serai pas surpris si nous ayons la guerre avec eux avant la fin de cette année, en quel cas une ligne sera tirée par les guerriers.

Mes Enfans: Vous me demandez un passeport pour aller à la nouvelle York; un passeport est inutile en tems de paix; il vous semble donc que nous serons en guerre avec les Etats Unis avant votre retour; vous aurez un passeport afin que si nous ayons la guerre ou non vous soyiez bien reçu par les guerriers du Roi.

Mes Enfans: Vous me parlez de vendre vos terres à l'Etat de la Nouvelle York; je vous ai déjà dit qu'il n'y a point de ligne entre eux et nous; je ne les reconnoîtrai pas comme propriétaires des terres dont ils se sont emparées depuis l'année 1783; et comme ils ne l'ont pas respectée de leur part; elle ne nous lie pas non plus.

Mes Enfans: Ils ont en même tems détruit leur droit de préemption; je regarde donc toutes leurs approches vers nous depuis ce tems, et tout achat de terres fait par eux, comme un attentat sur les droit du Roi, et quand une ligne sera tirée entre nous, ou en paix ou en guerre, il faudra qu'ils abandonnent tous leurs établissemens de ce côté-ci. Tous ces gens qui n'obtiennent pas la permission de

se faire sujets du roi seront renvoyées; Tout ce qui appartient aux sauvages leur sera en même tems confirmé et garanti.

Mes Enfans: Que puis-je vous dire de plus? Vous êtes témoins que de notre part nous nous sommes comportés envers les Etats Unis de la manière la plus pacifique; nous avons souffert leur langage et leur conduite injurieuse avec patience; mais à cette heure je crois notre patience poussée presque au bout.

Donnez sous ma main au Chateau de St. Louis dans la Ville de Québec ce Dixième Février 1794.

(Signé)

DORCHESTER.

Par commande de son Excellence,
(Signé) HERMAN W. RYLAND.

(Copie de la Reponse de son Excellence Lord Dorchester aux Sauvages du pays d'en haut; donnée à Québec 10 Fevrier, 1794. Traduit en français par H.W.R.)

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO THE SEVEN NATIONS OF LOWER CANADA.

Reply of His Excellency Lord Dorchester to the Indians of the seven villages of Lower Canada as deputies from all the nations who were at the Great Council held at the Miamis in the year 1793, except the Chawanas, Miamis and Loups.

Children:

I have well considered your words and am now prepared to reply.

Children: You have informed me that you are deputed by the Seven Villages of Lower Canada, and all the Nations of the Upper Country who sent Deputies to the General Council held at the Miamis, except the Chawanas, Miamis and Loups.

Children: You remind me on your part of what passed at the Council Fire held at Quebec just before my last departure for England, when I promised to represent their Situation & wishes to the King their Father, and expressed my hope that all the Grievances they complained of on the part of the United States would soon be done away by a just & lasting Peace.

Children: I remember all very well: I remember that they pointed out to me the Line of Separation which they wished for between them & the States, and with which they would be satisfied & make Peace.

Children: I was in expectation of hearing from the People of the United States what was required by them; I hoped that I should have been able to bring you together and make you Friends.

Children: I have waited long, & listened with great attention, but I have not heard one word from them.

Children: I flattered myself with the hope that the Line proposed in the year Eighty three, to separate us from the United States, which was immediately broken by themselves as soon as the Peace was signed, would have been mended, or a new one drawn in an amicable manner: here also I have been disappointed.

Children: Since my return, I find no appearance of a Line remains; and from the manner in which the People of the States push on, and act, and talk on this side, and from what I learn of their conduct towards the Sea, I shall not be sur-

prized if we are at war with them in the course of the present year; and if so, a Line must then be drawn by the Warriors.

Children: You ask for a Passport to go to New York; a Passport is useless in Peace; it appears therefore, that you expect we shall be at War with the States before you return; You shall have a Passport, that whether Peace or War you may be well received by the King's Warriors.

Children: You talk of Selling your Lands to the State of New York: I have told you, that there is no Line between them and us; I shall acknowledge no Lands to be theirs which have been encroached on by them since the year 1783; they then broke the Peace, and as they kept it not on their part; it doth not bind on ours.

Children: They then destroyed their Right of preemption, therefore all their approaches towards us since that time; and all the Purchases made by them, I consider as an Infringement on the King's Rights; and when a Line is drawn between us, be it in Peace or War, they must lose all their Improvements and Houses on our side of it; those People must all be gone who do not obtain leave to become the King's Subjects: What belongs to the Indians will of course be confirmed & secured to them.

Children: What further can I say to you? You are Witness that on our parts we have acted in the most peaceable manner, and borne the Language and Conduct of the People of the United States with Patience; but I believe our Patience is almost exhausted.

Given under my Hand at the Castle of St. Louis in the
City of Quebec, this Tenth day of February in the year of
Our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-four.

(signed) DORCHESTER.¹

By His Excellency's Command
(Signed) Herman Witsius Ryland

*Endorsed: G
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Dundas.
No. 18 of the 24 Feby. 1794.*

FROM JOHN MCGILL TO J. G. SIMCOE.

The introducing a certain circulating medium of Specie into the Colony would, I conceive, in all transactions with the Settlers, operate to the advantage of the Crown, by reducing the price of Supplies, and at the same time be much more beneficial and satisfactory to the Inhabitants.

— It would be a great saving to the Crown, were the Settler's Produce purchased immediately of himself, such as flour, peas, wood, &c., without having recourse to the Merchant or Trader paying for the small quantities in Specie, and for the large, (if found expedient), in Government Bills, as a proof I was lately informed by a very able farmer that supposing flour was sold for 15/ per Cwt. Halifax Currency

¹ Lord Dorchester's speech to the Indians on February 10, 1794, was printed in full in the New York Daily Gazette, 25th March, 1794, and in the Gazette of the United States of Philadelphia, of 26th March, 1794. On March 28, the latter newspaper contained the following note:—"From undoubted authority we understand that the late talk Lord Dorchester had with the Indians was conducted in a very secret manner. The matter was not known even in Quebec till some time after the departure of the Indians; when, on their returning to Montreal, they disclosed the matter to a friend, who took a copy of the said talk and from which several copies were made out.—*Diary.*"

and to be paid in Merchant's Notes, that he would prefer receiving 12/6 per Cwt. in Specie or Government Bills, and that he believed this to be the general sense of the Inhabitants above Niagara.

It may perhaps be urged by some as a reason why Specie should not be introduced into circulation, that part of it might be transmitted to the States for Cattle, such an objection, ought not (I conceive) to have much weight, for admitting this was really to be the case for a few years, it would tend so materially to the benefit of every farmer by enabling him to procure a sufficient stock of Cattle, at present very much wanted, that any Specie given in exchange for them would be laid out to very good account and would ultimately tend to the advantage of the Crown by the reduction of the price of provisions, and I submit if it is not a matter of very great importance to Government as well as to the Inhabitants that a sufficient stock of Cattle should be brought into this Colony while Great Britain and the States are at Peace, for should a War unfortunately take place between these two Powers the obtaining of supplies, as has been the case hitherto from Montreal, might not only be difficult and dangerous, but at the same time very precarious. In a situation of this kind would it not be a pleasant circumstance to know that the Colony contained sufficient resources in Cattle, &c., to answer any demand for provisions that might be made for supplies and at a reasonable rate, and that His Majesty's Service would not suffer by the surrender of any one Post on that account, should the usual supplies be not received regularly from Montreal.

Merchants and Traders who have large sums of paper in circulation, (which forms no small part of their Capital and gains), will not be desirous that Specie be brought into circulation, being convinced whenever this takes place, that their paper Notes (which bear a discount of 12½ per cent) will not pass in payment for produce, &c., or indeed any paper not authorized by Law, exclusive of this Consideration there are others, wherein they are interested, such as keeping up the price of flour &c., and allowing the Settler the same price only in Goods at a most extravagant profit and Notes, that the Crown pay to them in Specie or Bills, owing to this cause the Settlers are held in the most disagreeable state of dependence on one particular Merchant from whom they are necessitated to take Goods at his own price, whereas did the Settlers receive Specie for their produce, it would free them from this dependence by putting it in their power to trade with whom they pleased, and wherever they could lay out their money to the best advantage. This would oblige the Merchants and Traders to abate something of their present immoderate charge and be satisfied with a reasonable profit and as Goods become cheaper the wants of the Inhabitants would increase, so that I do not conceive much Specie would be hoarded up, or that any diminution in the consumption of British Manufactures is to be apprehended.

The bringing Specie into circulation by purchasing and paying the Settlers for their produce would be a saving to the Crown because the farmer would charge less for his produce when paid in Specie or Government Bills than if he were to be paid in Goods or Merchants' Notes.

It would enable the Settler to stock his farm with Cattle and to furnish Government either regularly or upon an emergency with any quantity of beef that might be wanted upon much more reasonable terms than the same could be had for at present.

It would add to the safety of the different Garrisons and Posts in case of a War with the States, because supplies could be easily obtained without much risk of their being intercepted by an enemy. It would put a stop to the circulation of paper Notes and bonds, and it would relieve the Inhabitants from their present

disagreeable dependence on any one particular Merchant by putting it in their power to lay out their money wherever they found it most to their advantage; this independence, of political considerations, is earnestly to be wished.

It would also cause a competition between the Merchants and Traders in the sale of their goods, which could not fail to reduce the price to the Settlers and ultimately tend as a saving to the Crown by rendering it no longer necessary to allow a greater price for Flour, Peas, &c., furnished for supplies by the Settlements of Niagara, than what the same article might be obtained for at Kingston, especially as the King's Ships could transport whatever might be wanted across Lake Ontario without any additional expence to Government and a further saving might be made in the transport across the portage from Queenstown landing to the Chippawa for a part of such supplies as might be intended for Detroit, by receiving flour at the Chippawa from the Mills in the vicinity of that Post, all of which is submitted to your Excellency.

JOHN MCGILL.

Commissary for Stores and Provisions
for the Province of Upper Canada.

His Excellency Lieut. Governor Simcoe.
Navy Hall. 10th February, 1794.

REPORT OF CAPTAIN M. ELLIOTT ON HIS RETURN FROM THE GLAISE ON TUESDAY 11TH FEBY. 1794, TO A. McKEE ESQR. D.A.I.A.

In obedience to your orders to me on the 2d of February, I proceeded to the Glaise where I arrived on the 4th. And was informed by the Chiefs of the Shawanese and Miamies, that they had agreed with the Delawares some time ago, to send two prisoners to General Wayne, to exchange for the two women who had been taken. But they had neither sent nor authorized any speech or message to the General respecting peace; That since the return of Wilson & the three Delawares, the Chiefs of the Shawanese & Miamies, & the other nations had been desired to meet the Delawares to hear what Gen. Wayne had said to the messengers they had sent; But none of them would go, or have any thing to say in Council on such business.

These Chiefs informed me also, that a very inconsiderable number of the Delawares are concerned in sending to General Wayne. During my stay at the Glaise, a party of Delawares came in & brought a prisoner & some horses which they had taken from waggons loaded with corn.

I was likewise informed that the greatest part of all the nations were gone out to observe any movements of the American Army, & to attack any parties of Troops or Convoys, they should fall in with.

I was informed also that it was intended by the same party of Delawares who had already sent to General Wayne to send again & that Wilson was to go on a second message, but I could not learn the purport thereof.

The other messengers whom you sent to the Glaise, remain there, until intelligence of importance (should there be any) shall require their return to you.

M. ELLIOTT.

Endorsed:—Report of Capt. Elliott, 11th Feby. 1794.

FROM ROBERT HAMILTON TO E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Dear Sir:

— You do me the honor of requesting my sentiments on the advantage or disadvantage of opening the Indian trade and on the effects of gold and silver being locked up from the purposes of Agriculture and commerce by the Inhabitants of Detroit.

— Perhaps a short detail of the changes which have taken place in both these subjects within my observation may best account for and explain my sentiments respecting them.

The Fur trade of the Province of Canada during the time of the French was a complete Monopoly, sometimes in the name of an India Company and sometimes in the hands of their Government.

That the French understood the method of conciliating the love and affection of the Indians better than any of their neighbours is universally allowed, but this certainly did not arise from the manner they managed the trade. It can be better accounted for by the influence their priests acquired, whose disinterested benevolence and unwearied zeal made the strongest impression on the yet undebauched minds of the Natives, and from the ease with which the French in general assimilated with them, adopting their manners and forming personal alliances sometimes by marriages and sometimes by slighter ties, all tending to the same and so effectually as not to be soon effaced. In my earlier intercourse with these people I often heard the oldest of the Missassaguas lament in very warm terms the loss of their ancient friends, but the methods they employed in carrying on the commerce neither tended to conciliate the minds of the Natives nor to increase the trade.

The Commanding Officers at the different posts were the Merchants, The Coureurs du Bois, persons sent by them into the Indian Villages. The capricious restriction of Military command and the pernicious consequences of interested monopoly made the trade languish. Many instances occurred of Indians passing by the posts of Cataraque and Niagara to carry their peltry to the English or Dutch Traders at Oswego.

— At the Conquest of the Country the monopoly was done away, but the evils of Military interference still continued. To trade in this Country passes from the Governor were required for many years and at last became more an object of pecuniary emolument to the Secretary than of regulation or restriction. Like other evils that originate at the head, it spread through all the branches. The Commanding Officers of the different Posts, careful of their prerogative must be consulted and must give their sanction to every outfit or speculation in this line. The prevention of improper persons going among the Indians was the reason assigned, but it was alleged that sometimes other motives than the disinterested good of Government had influence in the grant of passes or the choice of Posts for supply by Government at their own expence with what notes might be wanted. If they would go a little further and establish a branch or branches in this Province ready to give bills of exchange for these notes and amply supplying the Country with the necessary small change for internal intercourse I should apprehend that the validity and convenience of these notes would soon supersede all others and thus do away without violence, an evil daily increasing and whose limits are not yet seen.

— When beginning this letter I had no idea that my subject could have extended to such a length. You will impute it to my wish to give every information in my power and believe me.

Your very humble servant.

R. HAMILTON.

Major Littlehales, Navy Hall.

QUEENSTON, Feb. 14, 1794.

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO J. G. SIMCOE.

Copy No. 6.

QUEBEC, 17th February, 1794.

Sir:

The accounts received by Lieut. Colonel England, of Mr. Wayne's intention to close us up at Detroit; I think the more probable from the Conduct I find has been pursued for the two last Summers on the side of Lake Champlain where the King's Sovereignty has been completely overturned within the Posts; and they now impudently tell the Commandant that his Jurisdiction extends no further than his Guns; Even this, I expect, in a short time they will not allow.

Self defence therefore requires we should prevent similar Evils from extending further, and that for our own security at the Detroit, we should occupy nearly the same Posts on the Miamis River which we demolished after the Peace.

This, I think, would cover Detroit and our Communication with that Settlement from Lake Erie; but if given up the Post I apprehend cannot be maintained.

At the same time that all necessary Measures for our defence are taken on the Land side, the Lakes must not be neglected: it may for this purpose be necessary to arm the Ships and Vessels completely, in order to preserve our Command on the water also; and if you find this expedient you will order it accordingly.

Your own experience & local knowledge will point out to you the Force proper to occupy the Miamis, as well as the most advantageous Positions without confining yourself to the Spots we occupied in 1783.

You will therefore order such Force from Detroit to the Miamis River as you may judge sufficient for that Service, as soon as the Season & other Circumstances will permit; observing only the general direction to preserve Detroit from being straitened either by Land or Water.

At the same time that you order a portion of Troops from Detroit with the Artillery requisite for that Service, it may not be amiss to consider what Reinforcements you may draw from other Parts within your Command, without exposing any to insult, and what Assistance you may have from the Militia; also whether by collecting all the Force in your power to assemble you would be in a condition to resist Wayne's attack should he attempt by Force to take possession of the Country.

I inclose a Copy of my Answer to a Message from the Indians of the Upper Nations which will sufficiently explain itself.

I am with Regard, Sir,

Your most obedt. humble Servant

DORCHESTER.

Colonel Simcoe,
Commanding His Majesty's Forces
in Upper Canada.

Endorsed:—C. In Lord Dorchester's No. 18 to Mr. Dundas of the 24th Feby. 1794.

FROM JOSEPH CHEW TO THOMAS ASTON COFFIN.

MONTREAL, 20th Feby, 1794.

Dear Sir:

No Communications from the Upper Country have been Received by me for many months, Except Colonel McKee's letters of the 15th of Novr. & 13th of Decr. with John Watkins' information who had deserted from Mr. Wayne's Army, Copy of which was forwarded to you the day after they came to hand.

It has been the Constant Custom to Enter the Proceedings of all councils held with the Indians in the Superintendent. General's Office which was the case with what passed at Quebec in 1791 with the Western Deputation at the Time Lord Dorchester was going to England. I believe the above mentioned Letters from Colonel McKee was brought to Town by the Indians who went to Quebec, but as he made no mention of them and as I did not see them I am not sure of it, the Letters having been Left in the Evening when I happened to be at home.

I have heard that the Indians who went to Niagara have been dissatisfied with the presents delivered to them, but this is in a Way I cannot intirely depend upon. I am at a Loss for Colonel Butler's not sending me the Proceedings of the Councils at Buffaloe Creek in October, or a return of the Presents he Issued last year. I have wrote to him and pointedly desired this may be done.

The Quantity of Goods sent as Presents to the several Posts last Season were fully sufficient to satisfy the Indians had they been properly Issued, those at the Bay De Quinte are Very thankfull for what they had.

His Lordship may be assured that I have and shall Constantly forward Every Intelligence I may Receive Respecting Indian Affairs by the Earliest Opportunity.

I am, &c.

JOSEPH CHEW.

Letters were Received in Town yesterday from Capt. Porter at Kingston the 9th Inst. in which he says it was reported that there had been an Engagement between the Indians & Mr. Wayne's Army in Which the Americans had lost Eight hundred men, if a matter of this sort has taken Place we shall soon have the particulars.

Thos. Aston Coffin, Esqr.

FROM JOSEPH BRANT TO JOSEPH CHEW.

Extract of a Letter from Capt. Brant to Joseph Chew, Sec'y of Indian Affairs, not dated but from one Rec'd at the Same Time on his Private Business suppose it was Wrote the 20th Feby, 1794.

"I am not able to send you my Journal I Promised but you shall have it by a Party which I shall send down.

I cannot Close this without giving some news Respecting the Indians. we Parted from the Council last Summer seemingly divided Some insisting on the Old line, the rest of us wishing to have the Line that we laid before Lord Dorchester some time ago.

Last fall we met the American Agent at Buffaloe Creek and requested to have a positive answer. Since we have received half an Answer. They wish us to meet

them in Council next summer. We are now going to Council Among our Selves Whether we shall meet them or not. how the matter will End I Cant Tell. this I will Assure you that I shall give you the Earliest information of the Business.

The reports from the Westward are that those Tribes that are for the old Line upon the Advancing of the American Army retreated from the Glaize and soon after sent an Embassy to the American General which would not be noticed unless the Whole Confederacy should send one."

a True Extract of
Capt. Brants Letter.
JOSEPH CHEW.
S.I.A.

FROM EDMUND RANDOLPH TO GEORGE HAMMOND.

PHILADELPHIA, February 21st. 1794.

Sir,

From a review of your letter to my predecessor, on the 22d day of November, 1793, it appears that you had not then received such definite instructions relative to his communication of the 29th of May, 1792, as would enable you *immediately* to renew the discussion upon the subject of it.

Suspended as this negociation had been for so long a time, I have it in charge from the President of the United States, to repeat the enquiry whether any instructions have yet been received by you for pursuing those discussions? Permit me to hope for the honour of a reply at as early a moment as may be convenient.

I have the honour to be, &c.
EDMUND RANDOLPH.

P. S. I thank you for the communication of his Britannic Majesty's declaration which I have just received.

The Minister Plenipotentiary
of Great Britain.

(Printed in the Gazette of the United States, Philadelphia, 28 February, 1794.)

FROM GEORGE HAMMOND TO EDMUND RANDOLPH.

PHILADELPHIA, 21st. February, 1794.

Sir,

In answer to the enquiry contained in your letter of this date, I have the honour of informing you that I have not yet received the definite instructions that, as I have before assured, I expect on the subject of the discussion to which you allude.

I have the honour to be, &c.
GEO. HAMMOND.

The Secretary of State.

(Printed in the Gazette of the United States, Philadelphia 28 February, 1794.)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

YORK, Feby 23rd, 1794.

Sir:

I feel it a duty to state to you such general Military observations as have been the result of my serious attention & personal observation in both Canadas.

I do not wish that this report should be considered by you in a Public Light, but I can have no objection that it should become such, if you think it expedient, being prepared to elucidate & Support every military principle therein laid down for your Consideration.

I have the honor to be with the highest Respect,
Your most Obedient & most obliged Servt.

J. G. SIMCOE.

To The Rt. Honble. Henry Dundas, &c., &c.

*Endorsed:—York, 23rd February, 1794.**Lt. Govr. Simcoe. R. 10th June. Ansd.*

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

YORK, UPPER CANADA, Feby 23rd, 1794.

Sir:

I think it necessary as I forward to you a duplicate of my dispatch (No. 20) of the 16th of Decemr. to offer at this critical period such reasons as present themselves to my judgment for stating that "no Military Necessity" in a general View, can render the withdrawing of the Troops from this Colony proper or justifiable; and tho' Lord Dorchester in a late communication of the 27th of January says "when circumstances permit I shall order part of the Troops from the Upper Posts down this Way, but the State of that Country is such that for the present I shall not weaken the force on the Treaty Line in any respect" yet as far as his former Recommendation ought to have authority, It would effectually disable me in case of hostilities from those exertions which my duty to His Majesty would otherwise lead me to, for the safety of the Colony entrusted to my charge; anxious therefore on the one hand not to incur The censure of a breach of subordination; and on the other being determined not to abandon the Province to a merciless enemy without my best endeavours for its Protection, I am persuaded I shall meet with your Approbation in more fully detailing the Ideas which I have maturely adopted for the strengthening and preserving His Majesty's Dominions in the two Canadas; trusting at the least, that they may be useful whenever His Majesty's Ministers shall find it seasonable to adjust upon system the relative force of these important Provinces.

The River St. Lawrence is the important feature of the Province of Lower Canada; the facilities of it counteract an ungenial climate and render it populous, as the excellency of its Lands on its banks will amply reward the industry of its Inhabitants when in the process of time this principle shall be awakened by the Influence of British Freedom in its present possessors.

The Land between the North Bank of this River and the Mountains is very narrow and intersected by numerous Streams. As a Military Barrier, the St.

Lawrence secures the northern shore (with common precautions) from all probable insult: while the settlements on the Southern, comparatively weaken it: but the greatest security it possesses as a British Colony, is the Access it affords for Ships of War to Montreal.

It seems therefore, that if Great Britain maintains her naval superiority any attempts of the United States, to conquer this Colony must be impotent and abortive, while she has access to it from the Ocean; to secure this important Point, it appears to be necessary that Quebec should not only always have a competent Garrison but that this Capital should by no means be the sole dependency of the Colony.

A Fortification erected at Dechambeau (The Rapids of the Richelieu) Capable of being defended by five or six hundred Men and proportionate Artillery, would force an enemy, supposing the worst that could happen, a second defection of the Inhabitants of Canada from the British Government and their own Interests, to undertake two sieges, such would be the situation of a Fortress to command the Rapids of Richelieu, that no Fleet could pass it; such would be its situation in respect to a Country, subdivided by so many streams, flowing, by rapid Courses of seldom more than six or seven miles, from uncultivated and inaccessible Mountains, into the St. Lawrence, and forming right angles with that River; that no Army could leave it in its rear, if competently garrisoned and supported by a Water force, it must follow therefore that to cut off Great Britain from the succour of her Provinces, both Quebec and this Fortress must be taken in one Winter; but such an event would almost be impracticable, due consideration being had to the inclemency of a Canadian Winter, and the respective Circumstances of the Invaders and defenders.

If either of these Fortresses, Quebec or that proposed at Richelieu should hold out, the other would be recovered in the Spring; for it will not be controverted but that a British Army supported by her fleet would soon regain a Country in which she should have such a footing.

The fortifying of the access to the St. Lawrence I consider Sir, therefore to be *the point* in the first seasonable opportunity, worthy of the utmost attention; and it will immediately do away the common opinion that upon "Quebec alone rests the safety of His Majesty's Dominions in North America." As a most important and collateral Object it will prevent the Subjects of the United States bordering upon the Lakes from entertaining the most distant hopes of carrying into execution their claim to pass down the River St. Lawrence, as the natural right of those who possess the Countries bordering on the Waters communicating with the Lakes or the River St. Lawrence; a right the People of Kentucky are now applying and insisting upon in respect to the Mississippi; which those of Vermont on a former occasion expressed to Sir Frederick Haldimand, and to which the Governor of New York seems to allude in his Speech of the 9th of February last.—This natural right, as defined by the Kentuckians, to be "inalienable, by acquiescence, weakness, tyranny, or prescription," not only militates against every law by which Nations have hitherto been joined in Compact, and must be governed, but from the peculiar situation of the American Colonists, if once universally adopted by them, will form a bond of Union in their present infant Condition, which will be more indissoluble in its nature, and more formidable in its effects to the European Nations, who possess Colonies, than any Power it is reasonable to expect they can probably attain to at a more advanced period.

Such Petty Posts as St. Johns on the Sorrel (was not the Champlain wisely opened to the St. Lawrence) and Oswego may provoke and irritate or invite the



Inhabitants in its vicinity to an early trial of strength. They are at best but Custom Houses, and in a hostile view must probably fall by Blockade at the commencement of War, if not by slight siege of the neighbouring Militia. On the Contrary, Quebec and its dependencies, being too formidable to be insulted by any separate State, must unite the whole force of the Confederacy for its attack, and of course give room for those temperate discussions which the Magnitude of the attempt shall inculcate as well as require.

In respect to the Frontier of Lake Champlain it has been particularly brought to notice by Lord Dorchester's communication to you of Captain Mann, the Engineer's observations on the boundary line.

It does not appear, Sir, that should this line be extended to the wishes and recommendations there delineated, that it would afford any real strength to the frontier, excepting it should be the determination to maintain a naval superiority on Lake Champlain for the purposes of offence. Such an extension of the boundary, would in fact invalidate its strength at present, and probably in future, throughout that period that must intervene in the progress of Settlement, from the Original State of the Soil to that Point of improvement, where the wealth and numbers of the Inhabitants shall contribute, actively, by the strength derived from these sources to the general benefit, in the same degree as the uncultivated Deserts had contributed to its security; "Woods and Swamps," as Captain Mann has justly expressed himself, in their natural state "are far from being despicable Barriers."

By the Grants which the Government of Lower Canada have made on the St. Francis and Yamaska Rivers, that Country will be speedily located.

It should appear that the Settlements forming on these Lands, which at their commencement seem to take root rather from the United States than Canada (and which during the late War were considered as Barriers) may weaken the Frontier for some time, whatever advantage they may procure to the owners.

Should the boundary be enlarged, its extension would appear to injure Vermont; already overflowing and settling up to the present line, rather than strengthen Canada.—Circumstances and relative force must determine on any Post to be occupied and fortified to the Southward of the St. Lawrence to its frontier, nothing less than an Army equal in numbers to the force in both Provinces could possibly advance in safety without any adequate utility or general protection.

It is true should the Canadians act with spirit and Loyalty such an Army might be perfectly safe; but then it would be useless; as it would not be expedient to penetrate to Vermont or leave Quebec to a second and more formidable attempt from the Chaudiere and St. Johns, the Yamaska or St. Francis; all practicable routs for desultory and collateral, if combined, possibly for permanent and solid operations.

In the late unhappy American War, whatever injury the Possession of New York in the estimation of some Military Men of the first Authority, might occasion the general progress of His Majesty's Arms, it is to that Position, Great Britain is indebted for the preservation of her present Provinces.

The Hudsons River, being now open, Seamen, Shipwrights, and every species of Preparation, necessary to obtain the Command of the Lakes, can be instantly brought into Action, with manifest Advantages in point of time, and in number, to what these Provinces can collect to oppose them; but all attempts of the United States to possess themselves of the River St. Lawrence will be abortive even by treachery, should the small craft on that River be properly arranged and registered to be destroyed or used as exigencies may demand; and should one or two Frigates constantly winter at Quebec. And this latter Force appears to me to be necessary

at all times, to furnish any Armament that may be requisite on the Lakes of Upper Canada.

Having, Sir, offered these brief Observations on the defence of Lower Canada from Quebec to Montreal; I beg to say that on Cursorily passing Richelieu, soon after my arrival in Canada, I was so forcibly struck with its position, that I immediately examined it, upon enquiry I was much gratified to find that Major Holland, the Engineer, had been directed by General Murray to take a plan of this most important and Military Citadel of the St. Lawrence and to form a project for fortifying it, which I beg leave to enclose.

In respect to Upper Canada, from Montreal to Oswegatchie, the St. Lawrence, its formidable Rapids, its unsettled frontier, and the Loyal Inhabitants on its Northern banks render its passage impracticable—Above Oswegatchie, the navigation for Shipping begins; and Fort Levy¹, now abandoned may in some future day again become an object of considerable importance; being Situated on an Island and therefore being Capable of being protected by a Combination of Naval and Land Force.

The State of New York has sold the Lands on the Southern Shore. The Indians, it is apprehended, will not permit them to be settled nor can it be allowed by Great Britain with Safety, but this partial contest, it is probable, will interest that State in President Washington's general plan of suppressing the Indian Nations, in particular as the Lands between the River Oswegatchie and Canada Creek, and the other Streams which fall into the Mohawk River, tho' formerly delineated in the Maps, as inaccessible, are now known to be very proper for settlement; from Oswegatchie to Oswego, is therefore in many respects the most important part of the Boundary proposed by His Majesty's Ministers as the main Object of the interference of Great Britain for its arrangement; from Point Levy to Kingston there are no other means of defence than the Advantages resulting from Naval Superiority, force and prior settlement. Its strength may be said in a great degree to depend upon the Possession of Lake Ontario.

The Harbour and Post at Kingston is too extensive to be defended by the whole force of both Canadas.

It is at evident risk, that it continues to be a Naval Arsenal, and no other reason can at present be given for it but that a few storehouses are erected there.—It is frozen in the Winter to the opposite shore.

Its being burnt is the least evil that may be expected. The People of the States may possibly seize and possess it, and turn it to as much detriment to Upper Canada as Chambly was in the late War.

The Bay of Quinte is a populous and flourishing settlement of Loyalists; and from hence any resources both in Men and provisions must be deduced, that shall be wanted for the more exposed parts of this Province.—From hence to the Harbour of York or Toronto, the Northern Shore of Lake Ontario is scarcely begun to be settled. York is the most important and defensible situation in Upper Canada, or that I have seen in North America.

I have, Sir, formerly entered into a detail of the advantages of this Arsenal of Lake Ontario. An interval of Indian Land of six and Thirty Miles divides this settlement from Burlington Bay, where that of Niagara commences. Its communication with Lake Huron is very easy, in five or six days and will in all respects be of essential importance. The Settlement of Niagara is the Bulwark of Upper Canada, and the preservation of the Lands on the opposite side of the River, of

¹ Fort Lévis, on Isle Royale, above the Galops Rapids.

which Mr. Morris, it is said, has purchased the pre-emption but which as yet the Indians have not sold, as a boundary is of the utmost consequence.

The Fortress of Niagara is not defensible with its present fortifications or Garrison, or if reinforced to double its numbers against the formidable attack which may be combined.—I do not mention Oswego, as it must fall whenever attacked by Siege or Military Blockade.

In case of offensive Operations commencing from this Province Oswego is a Post of the utmost Consequence.

The general policy that has guided the present Government in the grant of Settlements is not to extend new and frontier, but to encourage People to fill up the Old ones, in particular Niagara and Kingston.

It has therefore made no new Grants below Fort Erie. It being advisable to Garrison *Long Point* the Harbour and Arsenal of that Lake before the settlements shall be extended thither.

The principal settlements of Detroit are without the boundary Line, every means has been used that could be devised, without expence, to encourage the Inhabitants to remove to the British side of the Treaty Line, and to increase the settlements on the River Thames, Dundas Street, the Road proposed from Burlington Bay to the River Thames, half of which is compleated, will connect by an internal Communication the Detroit and settlement of Niagara, and it is intended to be extended northerly to York by the Troops, and in progress of time by the respective settlers to Kingston and Montreal.

The occupying York Harbour, Long Point and Matchadash or Gloucester Bay on Lake Huron with Block Houses, as I have proposed together with the extension of the same system if necessary for the security of the Rivers of Niagara, Detroit, and the Thames is strictly a defensive system, necessary for the protection of Magazines and naval arsenals, and to prevent any enemy from occupying them.

South from the Bay of Quinte there is no harbour capable of holding vessels that draw two feet Water except York from thence to Niagara the Waters are equally low; and in the dry season of the Lake from Niagara to Oswego including that River there is not three feet and even in the Spring these Ports are frequently Barred by the Northerly Winds.

Long Point is similarly circumstanced with respect to Lake Erie, there is no Port but this, and the Grand River from Fort Erie to the Detroit River and the south shores of this Lake are similar to those of Ontario, from the Straits of St. Clair to Matchadash or Gloucester Bay, and from thence to the Straits of St. Mary there is no other harbour than Matchadash Bay.

These Sea Ports might in the first instance be perfectly defended by those Block Houses I have transmitted an estimate of if successively executed. They might in a short space be garrisoned when necessary by that species of Militia or Castle Guard to be formed from the disbanded soldiers of the Queens Rangers, agreeably to that Arrangement by which His Majesty's Ministers were induced to raise that Corps, looking forward most wisely to the principle of rendering a part of the Standing Army every day less necessary in Upper Canada. And I cannot but observe to you, that with proper provisions and attention to the detail, which at a seasonable opportunity I shall do myself the honor to transmit to you, I have no doubt but that such Soldiers as by their Industry may be desirous and deserving of their discharges in this Country will be glad to be enrolled in such Militia, and for their discharge to pay all the expences of enlistment, Passage and maintenance of a Recruit from Great Britain.

These Posts, affording means for reciprocal communication possess striking

advantages, in respect to offensive operations. I can admit of no doubt in their very appearance. The preparations for Offensive War, should there even be no probability of carrying them into effect, would be more formidable, and competent for protection of the Province than any scattered line of impotent defence in which the enemy would have nothing to do but decide by lottery of which part of the Province he should first take possession.

There can be no advance from Lower Canada into the United States without the permission of Vermont, whose Militia in 1781 Sir Frederick Haldimand considered "as very formidable Enemies better provided than the continental Troops and in their principles more determined." They then amounted to 7,000 and are now at least double that Number.

Upper Canada from the Mississippi to the Hudson may co-operate with any invasion that shall take place on the Coast of the Atlantic. Such an invasion of Ten Thousand British Troops, I am of opinion, would probably overturn the heterogeneous Confederacy. And in such an invasion, any system of defensive or naval War, I firmly believe must ultimately terminate, tho' it may not be deemed prudent, practicable, or popular, at the commencement of Hostilities.

Upper Canada holds the sources of those Rivers which form the great Bays and Sea Ports of the United States, And this very circumstance in the course of time will give to this Country a tremendous ascendancy over the subjacent States.

In the mean time being divided from the United States by the Lakes, The Rivers and the uncultivated Lands of the Indians, such Population as shall flow into it from the States will be gradual and unconnected, so far as not to endanger the settlement by too great an accession of People of different Political Opinions and Principles from His Majesty's Subjects and to this point agreeably to your Opinion, this Government, Sir, as far as possible will pay unremitting attention.

I have thus offered to you as concisely as possible the sketch of those reasons which determine my opinion that there can be "no Military necessity" for withdrawing the whole King's Troops from this Province. In case of an Indian War or one with the United States at least I shall remain in this Opinion till some arrangement totally different from what at present exists shall be determined upon by the Commander in Chief.

In submitting these Ideas to your Consideration I do it with the firm persuasion that at the first seasonable opportunity His Majesty's Ministers will form some general system adequate to existing circumstances, and calculated to protect this great Country in its Infant Establishment and gradually build it up with that solidity and permanency that may display its many advantages and render it a most important Part of the British Empire.

Such a system, comprehensive, regular and inalterable in its design is most necessary, for the national Advantage; to guide those who are entrusted with its execution, invariably to pursue the great outline of their duty; to enable them uniformly to overcome or obviate all difficulties, and mould every partial advantage to a general end.

At present every Military arrangement in Upper Canada is an effect from a Cause which has long ceased to operate, or at best which but partially exists, and has a direct tendency in many instances to cramp those exertions which circumstances require to be instantaneous, both to protect the King's Subjects, to encrease the National Strength and to display those decisive advantages which This Colony possesses over the Subjects of the United States.

The system I have offered from time to time to your consideration while it aims in its Establishment at great and permanent Objects, will effect temporary

ones of no mean consideration. The drawing by degrees our Troops from the Barrier Forts and preparing new stations must eminently conciliate the People of the United States; who will be convinced that a sense of National Honor, not Mercantile advantage has occasioned them not to be evacuated. The Indians too, will consider our withdrawing our Troops, if it shall ever *suddenly* take place, to national apprehensions.

This is an object of most serious importance to this Colony, and can only be prevented by our preoccupying other advantageous situations.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect,

Sir, Your most obedient and
very Humble Servant.

J. G. SIMCOE.

The Right Honorable Henry Dundas, &c., &c., &c.

Endorsed:—York 23rd Feby. 1794. Lt. Govr. Simcoe..

R. 10th June. Ansd.

(One Inclosure.)

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO HENRY DUNDAS.

QUEBEC, 24 February, 1794.

No. 18.

Sir,

A Lieutenant Colonel England's Letter contains the last information I have received from Detroit, and shews the broken condition of the Indian Confederacy; the Causes of which are attributed to a defection of the Six Nations; which I think no more than might have been expected.

B By the Intelligence which accompanies his Letter it appears that General Wayne intends to march to Detroit, this is the more probable as it corresponds with what has been carrying forward on other parts of the Frontier.

C The proceedings of the People of the States on the side of Lake Champlain, and more particularly on Caldwell's Manor, point out clearly what we must submit to, were Mr. Wayne suffered to advance: these circumstances admitting of no further delay, it became necessary immediately to send such additional Orders & Instructions to Colonel Simcoe for the Defence of the Upper Country as appeared best suited to its present Condition.

D What resources may be derived from the Militia of the Country I have not yet learned. Detroit is able to send out a considerable Force upon any sudden emergency; but being chiefly on the Extra provincial side, that part of the Militia would soon undergo the same Fate as the Militia on Caldwell's Manor, be new organized and turned against the King if Mr. Wayne were suffered to approach.

F I have informed Mr. Hammond of the hostile appearances manifested in all parts by our Neighbours, and have sent him a Copy of my Answer to a Message from the Indians of the Upper Country.

H My instructions to Major General Ogilvie, concerning the Evacuation of the Island St. Peter, will shew what appears to me expedient on the occasion.

Oct. 25th. Having already submitted my opinion of the Measures requisite
 No. 3. for the General Security of the King's American Dominions, I have little now to add from any further view of things: but I must here observe, that not only the Islands of Cape Breton, St. Johns & Newfoundland, but also the Provinces of Nova Scotia & New Brunswick, possess so little Colonial Strength, that left to this alone, it would not require a very considerable Armament to lay their entire Coasts desolate, and spread destruction through the Country, to considerable distance from the Shores.

Even a large Body of Troops, without Ships to maintain a Superiority at Sea, could preserve only some few Stations where they might be collected in Force; but if much dispersed, they also might share the common Ruin.

I am with great Respect and Esteem, Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

The Right Honble. Henry Dundas

DORCHESTER.

Endorsed:—Quebec, 24th Feby. 1794. The Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester. R. 10th June. No. 18. Ansd. (Eight Inclosures.)

FROM JOSEPH CHEW TO THOMAS ASTON COFFIN.

Private.

MONTREAL, 27th Feby., 1794.

My Dear Sir:

You cannot imagine what an Alarm His Lordship's Reply to the Indians who were lately at Quebec has occasioned in this Town; the general construction put on it is that His Lordship must be possessed of such Intelligence as to be confident of a war soon taking place between Great Britain and the U. States. Numbers of copies have been taken of it, I saw one and a gentleman told me last night that he had seen three. I have been asked by a number of People what Indians were at Quebec and if any accounts had arrived from the Upper Country, to which I answered that I knew nothing of the Indians or of anything from the Upper Country. I think it very extraordinary that His Lordship's reply should have been handed about as it has, and am a stranger to the way it has been done & by whose means. I believed it proper to give you this account as I don't doubt much will be sent from here to Quebec on the subject.

Be assured that I am, my dear Sir,

Yours sincerely

Thos. Aston Coffin, Esq.

JOSEPH CHEW.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

No. 21.

UPPER CANADA, YORK, February 28th, 1794.

Sir:

I do myself the honor of acknowledging your dispatch of the thirty first of August, 1793. Nothing can be more grateful to me, Sir, than your Approbation of my Conduct, from a very early period. The Interest of His Majesty and the Public Service have been ruling Principles of my Heart, in consequence you may depend upon it I shall never lose sight of any instructions that I may receive from you. I have great pleasure in believing that my conduct has been such in this Country, as to conciliate as much as can be expected the minds of the People of the United States to the unsettled condition of the important objects now under

discussion, but it is with particular satisfaction, that I inform you, Sir, that on the arrival of your dispatch, while I acknowledge its receipt, Brigade Major Littlehales has been delayed from pursuing his journey to Mr. Hammond to whom He is going, in the very Spirit of your instructions therein contained, to explain and obviate any ill effects that may arise from the late Speech of Governor Clinton's to the Legislature of the neighboring State of New York.

I wish that the Indian Papers which I transmit by this opportunity were of a more favorable nature. Brigade Major Littlehales has my directions to consult with Mr. Hammond so as to prevent if possible all inconvenience that may arise from Mr. Wayne's approach to the vicinity of the Detroit, our settlements extend a considerable Way into the Country.

It is obvious that without actual hostility a Line may be so drawn round Detroit so as to cut it off under the most plausible pretences from All intercourse with the Indian Nations, preparatory to those People being turned against us, which we may expect according to all former proceedings of the Savages. The Shawanese will probably quit the Country, and the Indians who remain will perhaps bear no resentment against the States.

I wish most sincerely, Sir, that I could disbelieve the universal concurrence of every species of information that I receive from the United States, of the general conversation and determination being to wrest the Posts from Great Britain, circumstances that may arise in Europe will check or augment this inclination. And It is with peculiar pleasure that I learn of a considerable Armament being sent to the West Indies. Its vicinity may have a competent influence with the maritime Inhabitants of the United States, but they do not govern its Councils. The General Opinion amongst all classes of them is, that in "one Winter they could overcome Canada." His Majesty's Ministers will without a doubt advert in case of foreseen Warfare to the Consequence it is to this Colony, as at *present circumstanced*, that no rupture should happen if possible in such a manner, that an invasion in Winter would be the first notice I should obtain of so dreadful an event.

Lord Dorchester does not approve of any fortifications being erected to defend this harbour at present, as His Lordship does not honor me with his reasons for such an Opinion, I remain clearly and hourly convinced of its propriety in every View, Civil or Military, in which I contemplate the Safety or benefit of this Country, whether in respect to its present or future situation.

I feel in the strongest manner the propriety of attention to the Militia. Our Neighbours are doing it not in words only, but by Arming them at the public expence. I have frequently represented the necessity of Arming the Militia of this Province, which is the request of all its Officers. It would be wise to allot Artillery for the several districts, this Service might be agreeable to the better sort of Inhabitants and would be most useful while we retain the Command of the Waters.

Lord Dorchester's Orders for public mourning in consequence of the Death of the late Queen of France, has just announced to us that melancholy Event.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect, Sir, Your most obedient
and Most humble Servant,

J. G. SIMCOE.

The Right Honble. Henry Dundas, &c., &c., &c.

Endorsed—York, 28th Feby, 1794. Lt. Govr. Simcoe. R. 10th June. No. 21. Ansd. Five Inclosures.

The same as in Ld. Dorchester's No. 18 of the 24th Feby, 1794.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

UPPER CANADA, YORK, Feby 28th, 1794.

Sir:

It is with great astonishment and Anxiety that since the closure of my dispatch, No. 21, I have been favored with your Letter containing Captain Stevenson's¹ suggestions in my Name, and the Answer with which you honored them.

I must in Justice to my own character observe to you, Sir, that I by no means gave Captain Stevenson any Letter of credence to make use of my name, as I conceive, in so very improper a manner, and that when on his obtaining leave of Absence to return to England, upon a particular family exigency, He took charge of my dispatches to you of the 4th of November, 1792, I expressed myself to you "that Captain Stevenson, who has leave to return to England on his family affairs, will be the Bearer of this Dispatch who is perfectly Capable of communicating any Information *you may require* relative to this Government."

I must beg to add that the suggestions which He has thought proper to communicate as mine without my Authority, would most assuredly have been transmitted to you in my own writing, (as the Conveyance would have been perfectly safe) the proper mode of respectfully submitting whatever I should have conceived my public Duty required. However, Sir, as undoubtedly Captain Stevenson was in my Confidence, and is a very active Officer, and well informed in respect to this Country, I trust you will permit my making some observations on the particular Articles which you have condescended to Answer, and some of which meet your Approbation. I shall arrange them in the same manner you have been pleased to state your Answer. Captain Stevenson is most certainly zealous to serve the Interests of His Majesty, and means not to lessen me in Your Opinion, but I cannot but consider that the suggestions called mine materially affect my character, and must point me out to you as a hasty, inconsiderate Person, without any arrangement, and scarcely endowed with Common Sense. I must therefore throw myself upon your goodness to beg of you to erase any impression this Circumstance may have made to my disadvantage from your mind, and if possible, that it should not appear in any shape as a public transaction.

I shall immediately communicate my Opinion to Captain Stevenson, and am with the most profound Respect,

Sir,

Your most Obedient, and most obliged Servant,
J. GRAVES SIMCOE.

The Right Honorable Henry Dundas, &c., &c., &c.

Endorsed:—York, 28th February, 1794. Lt. Govr. Simcoe. R. 10th June. Ansd. (One Inclosure.)

MEMORANDA BY J. G. SIMCOE.

1st. Having previous to my departure from England communicated my wishes for a Field Train to His Majesty's Ministers, and in particular to the Duke of Richmond professedly in expectation that His Grace would converse with Lord Dorchester on that purpose, I certainly consider that Subject as already discussed—as a professional man I have mentioned my Ideas to His Grace of the disesteem that

¹ Captain Charles Stevenson, of the 5th Regiment.

Artillery had fallen into in woody Countries, as being consequent to the ignorance of those who did not know how to arrange them. The General of the United States, Wayne, has twenty two Howitzers in his Army.

Those People will remember the experiments made by the late Lord Howe in Albany at the beginning of the War which terminated in 1763.

2d. I consider this Subject in the same light as the foregoing.

3d. I do not recollect any Conversation relative to Commissioner McGill, by his desire being anxious not to become a public Accountant without Power, I transmitted his Commission to Quebec, when I apprehended Lord Dorchester was nearly arriving; of course it rests with Lord Dorchester for his decision.

4th. I am astonished at any mention being made relative to Clerk of the Council. Mr. Small had arrived before Captain Stevenson's departure, and is a *Gentleman* who possesses and is entitled to my highest confidence, and I regret his Salary and emoluments are so very scanty. On the first Establishment of the Colony it was necessary that a Confidential Person should be appointed to act, such was not easy to be found; at the desire of the Council Brigade Major Littlehales officiated. This Gentleman's views are military and to serve His Majesty in his Profession; I desired his present Appointment as his early experience during the whole of the siege of Gibraltar might possibly one day or other be of peculiar Public Service—had not Mr. Small been sent from England it would not have been practicable to have found in this Province a Gentleman proper for this Office, and who would have quitted his residence for the Salary, Officers relinquishing their half pay not bettering their situation, had I thought of any Gentleman for this Office I certainly should have taken the liberty of mentioning it to you before I left England.

5th. I am perfectly satisfied with your Opinion, Sir, relative to the Surveyor General. I by no means would have a Man connected with the land Office of whose integrity I was not certain and tho' that faithful Servant of the Crown, Mr. Holland, is so disabled as to be of no personal Service in this Country, The Gentleman who superintends it fully supplies his place without any unnecessary Salary.

6th. The Establishment of A Bishop will materially secure those arrangements necessary for a Clergy.

7th. I never recollect that I had any Communication with Captain Stevenson on the French Emigrants, the War had not commenced when He left the Country. Commissioners from them have since arrived in this Province; tho' I treated them with all possible respect, I am by no means prepared to consider them as proper Subjects for this Colony. I therefore never mentioned them, Sir, in my communications with you. The Council has agreed to set apart a Township for them if they should emigrate in a body, by no means in the French Quarter of Detroit, but at the bottom of Ontario in the midst of the British Settlements, leaving the Country open to single Families; and all questions relative to ecclesiastical and other Communities to be decided upon by His Majesty's Ministers. I have done my utmost to withdraw all settlers on the British side of the Line, and it is one of the reasons that I have wished to establish a *Post*, and consequently a Town at *Chatham*.

8. I have never intimated a doubt but that the Settlers at Detroit are amenable to our Laws; to mention to Mr. Hammond the extent of our Boundary and to define it is one of the instructions Major of Brigade Littlehales is charged with at present, that by previous Orders it may prevent any misunderstanding on this Point, should Wayne approach the Strait. This boundary is the River au Raisin, doubts have been entertained by the Judges on this Point but they had no Weight in preventing my calling upon them for Representation.

9th. All public Arrangements are liable to abuses. Some such may have existed in extending the King's late benevolence. It was just in its principle, and I believe severally considered, will be found to have been wise and useful. The Generosity of Great Britain to the Loyalists is the Constant topic of conversation in the United States.

10th. Carleton Island, &c., is included in observations transmitted by me to Mr. Hammond, where I meant it to rest. The Post of Toronto or York is much better and of more immediate Consequence.

11th. My Opinion, Sir, has been totally and diametrically averse to any Port for Upper Canada. It narrows the idea of Quebec in respect to all internal America and its Exportations being considered as a Free Port.—And would lead to a smuggling of prohibited exports beyond all Calculation—all discussions relative to the Mississippi must be premature at present.

12th. Nothing can be more prudent than the King being the Arbiter of all differences between the two Provinces, and the Government of them should be such as to preclude all possibility of such happening. The Wisdom of Chief Justice Osgoode in the Legislative Council has checked such a disposition in some instances.

13th. The establishment of a Custom House, a favorite measure with those who wish for its Offices, has been rejected by the same means.

14th. I am most perfectly astonished at this Article. Captain Stevenson had no such Authority from me. I neither desire nor expect the Rank. Mr. Nepean I dare say may recollect some expressions of mine on the Subject—But I beg, Sir, in one particular to observe that in *America* I am older as a Colonel than Colonel Gordon, and I believe than all the Colonels in the last promotion, and some of the King's Aides de Camp.

15th. Most certainly.

16th. I fully, Sir, enter into your Ideas. They have been my rule of Conduct in a thousand instances—to pre-occupy situations that might be proper in case of withdrawing from the Posts has been and is my opinion—And the late Commissioners from the United States look upon my present place of residence as preparatory thereto.

17th. I have been employed in collecting such information as may be submitted to the Lords of Trade ever since I have been in this Country and hope to transmit them when the Navigation opens, if I receive in time some mercantile information.

18th. In recommending a Corps of a mixed nature for His Majesty's Ministers' approbation, I certainly meant to make it to be in the course of time equal to all emergencies. I therefore wished to have it recruited by *Sailors*. The War has for the present suspended the possibility of the extension of this idea. I have certainly talked of it to Captain Stevenson and directed a calculation on the Subject—I shall submit these ideas to Lord Dorchester.

19th. The Royal Americans is also a favorite idea of mine with the Queens Rangers, they may certainly form the whole American Army, provided our frontier shall be so fortified by *Posts* and settlers as to be secure from the Indians.

20th. The Vessels are possibly not of sufficient force but there are great difficulties to render them adequate to the variety of Service they must be employed upon. Lord Dorchester has required my Opinions upon the Subject.

21st. Articles, if necessary, may be made.

22nd. The English Opinions seem properly to Govern our Legislature in all Acts relative to the Quakers—A person of that description being elected into the Assembly, vacated his Seat because he would not take the Oath prescribed.

23rd. It is to be lamented there is little probability of the States and the Indians making any amicable Arrangement.

24th. I certainly, from Captain Stevenson's Character and in particular from his experience in naval matters, wished to have had him appointed Deputy Quarter Master General in Upper Canada. I have expressed myself on this head to Lord Dorchester—The detail of various business I have is infinite, and its subdivision is for the King's Service. Lieutenant Smith who now officiates as Assistant Deputy Quarter Master General is confined to *Niagara* and petty duties—The Officer I want is to be *detached* to investigate and oversee the whole of the Service in any part of the Province on which He or I may be required—besides this Gentleman's Station is not permanent, hitherto it has been a moveable Office with the Regiment, I hope Lord Dorchester will permit this Gentleman's continuance, as in the Surveyor General's department and House of Assembly, He is of essential Service. The Objection You originally made to Captain Stevenson, if you please to recollect, Sir, was that no such Office existed, or was stated to Parliament. I then conceived it to be absolutely necessary, the public Service is much crippled by small savings in giving only petty Salaries, an object in General to incompetent and unsafe Men.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Endorsed:—In Lt.-Govr. Simcoe's of the 28th Feby, 1794.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

YORK, March 2d, 1794.

Sir:

A Delaware Chief, resident at the Grand River, who lately left Detroit, has arrived here. He is sent by Captain Brant to communicate to me the Information, that a Deputation from the hostile Western Indians in consequence of the result of the last Council was gone to General Wayne to make Peace.

He says that Colonel McKee did his utmost to prevent this message, and that the Garrison of *Fort Recovery*, the place where the Battle was fought with General Sinclair, consists of a thousand men. I think the substance of this Report to be true, and that it will produce in due gradation, the most important effects.

The Six Nations Confederacy, It is probable, will be as submissive, as the Western Indians to such terms as General Wayne shall dictate, these, I make no doubt will be specious, and apparently liberal.

Should the Southern Indians, the Creeks or Cherokees, continue to defend their Country, the whole American Policy having but this single Object to attend to, in its interior Concerns, will probably secure a speedy termination of all difficulties in that Quarter. In this train of Circumstances it would give me infinite Pleasure, could I flatter myself that the situation of Affairs in Europe were such as to enable His Majesty's Ministers to complete the Regiments to their stated numbers, and by any modification of Force, to make it prudent in me to make those Establishments which I proposed upon the River Thames and Lake Erie.

Every moment confirms me in my Opinion of the necessity of this arrangement with respect to the Indian Nations.

The Principal Object of this Dispatch, Sir, is more immediately to point out to your attention two circumstances: the first is that General Knox in his last message, not only when He speaks of the President Washington calls him *Father*,

which hitherto has been unusual, but addresses his message to the Six Nations and *Chippewas*. The *Chippewas* are the principal Nation of Indians residing to the Northward of the River La Tranche, or Thames, filling up the whole of the Isthmus to the North, and more or less, extending through the whole tract of our inland Commerce to the Westward.

The Second Circumstance to which I allude, is the President Washington's lately recommending Attention to be paid by the *Legislature* to supply the Indian Nations with regular Markets through the medium of the public, which would require no profit on the several commodities, but merely a remuneration of the Original Expence.

The settlement that I proposed for the Capital on the Spot designated in the plans I have done myself the Honor of transmitting, *London* is the only means that I can devise to form such an Union with the Indian Nations, as may possibly prevent their being turned against the British Colonies even should not the Detroit be given up.

The great means to preserve the Indians would be faithfully to bestow upon them the King's Bounty with every possible Ceremony in the Capital of the Country, this would operate to prevent the effects of President Washington's Policy.

My Opinion on this Subject will be, Sir, more particularly expressed in the report which I have been some time maturing for the Lords of the Committee of the Council for trade on the State of this Province, and which I hope to transmit so soon as the Navigation shall permit, when I may expect to be able to detail the Result of the Councils of the Western Indians.

I have the honor to be with the utmost Respect, Sir,

Your most obedient & most faithful Servant,

J. G. SIMCOE.

The Right Honorable Henry Dundas, &c., &c., &c.

Endorsed:—York, 2d March, 1794. Lt. Govr. Simcoe. R. 10th June.

No. 22. Ansd.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

YORK, Mar. 3, 1794.

My Lord:

I do myself the honor of transmitting to Your Lordship, the estimate and plan of a species of Blockhouse, which at my desire, the Engineer, Lieut. Pilkington, has transmitted to me. The idea I suggested, is a square building that might be bomb-proof, to contain the public stores, and which, being furnished with heavy cannon, and such outworks as from time to time might be necessary, might protect the entrance of the harbours of this Province, in particular that of Toronto. On the top of this building, I had no objection to a wooden Blockhouse being erected, so to be framed as to be taken off in case of siege, but which in the mean time might serve for the barracks of the Garrison. Upon Your Lordship's arrival being delayed, I transmitted this plan to His Grace, the Duke of Richmond. I consider it as cheap in itself, and from its position giving a Security to the Harbour adequate to the present Circumstances. I consider the position of the Harbour of York or Toronto, as necessary to the Security of Niagara. I desired also some field

pieces, principally Howitzers, and in a general statement of the Plan I conceived necessary for Niagara, I observed to His Grace the great advantage I should deduce from the twelve pounders, with shells, in case of any Naval force attempting to penetrate by means of the shallows universal from Oswego to Niagara River, and from thence to this place, where our superiority in Shipping could be of no avail. Had not Your Lordship returned to Your Government this last year, I presume His Grace would have conversed with you upon it, as well as with those others which I formally submitted to him, on my leaving England, previous to Your Lordship's arrival, for that express purpose.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

J. G. SIMCOE.

Lord Dorchester.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

YORK, March 3rd, 1794.

My Lord:

Upon intimation I received that the United States would be glad to be informed of a transaction alluded to by Governor Clinton in his Speech, I thought proper to direct Captain Littlehales to proceed immediately to Mr. Hammond. The former part of Mr. Clinton's Speech alludes to a complaint made by Mr. Ogden; the latter to a seizure made near Oswego not only of contraband goods, but of such as were attempting to be run into this Province under the pretence of a passport of mine, which was a forgery. Mr. Littlehales also carries to Mr. Hammond the Copy of the Information I enclose—He is directed to consult with Mr. Hammond relative to the attempt to pass by Oswego in open defiance of the Garrison, and which I formerly communicated to Mr. Hammond and General Clarke.

The reports of General Wayne's publicly declaring that he should march within nine miles of Detroit is also of such a nature, that whether it be true or false, I have thought proper to be communicated to Mr. Hammond—in particular as threatening an aggression of the same nature as that of Oswego, or Niagara, they may undergo discussion and arrangement. Danforth, a Major of Militia, who also works the Salt Springs near Oswego, is an adherent of Governor Clinton's, and the Person who is most violent in his language against the British Troops retaining Oswego. The Circumstances of the Garrison firing at the boat have been reported to Your Lordship. I have also mentioned the best means I could devise to prevent such practices from gradually leading to serious consequences, was the establishing a custom house boat of such a force and speed, that all hopes of seizing the Officer and rendering him to gaol, (as I understand Judge Horner has advised), would be unavailing. The boat to carry a six pounder is built, and with Your Lordship's permission, I should propose to reinforce the Garrison of Oswego with a Sergeant and twelve men from Kingston for the summer season, occasionally to man this boat. I should hope that the report of such preparation would prevent the fatal consequences that may immediately happen, should any accident happen from the Officer commanding at Oswego, executing Your Lordship's orders, in preventing any boat from passing into Lake Ontario without examination.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

J. G. SIMCOE.

Lord Dorchester.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

YORK, March 3rd, 1794.

My Lord:

In Answer to Your Lordship's Letter No. 5, I have great pleasure in informing you that the *Onondago* has been got off the shoal and is within the Harbour. I have great hopes that she has not received any particular damages, and that she may be safely trusted, accompanied by the Gun Boat from Niagara, to proceed to Kingston, as soon as it shall be probable the Harbour is open. On my arrival on this Lake, I thought it expedient to throw the two Vessels intended for Gun Boats into the transport Service, to supply a deficiency that otherwise would naturally arise from the Circumstance that pressed for its Augmentation; I concluded that this addition would be ample for the general Service of the former Arrangements and of the new Establishment. On my occupying York, the general Instructions were that these Gun Boats should, as far as Circumstances admitted, be employed in the Service, while the larger Vessels were kept upon their usual employs. Your Lordship may be assured that every Attention will be paid that my orders suggest to Your Lordship's Commands; but I must beg for your directions, whether I am, or am not to employ the Gun Boats on the supply of this Post? as in the event that Your Lordship shall not approve of my making use of them, and secondarily of the larger Vessels, I must desire some other means of Supply for this Post. In considering the important Object of forming Establishments in this Colony adequate to its present Situation, and to the means which have been entrusted to me, as Provincial, I cannot suppose that Your Lordship means to withhold from me such Assistance, as without injury to the Military Arrangements you may be able to afford to me in relief of that expence to the Public; which must necessarily accrue by my being obliged to purchase such materials as I stand in need of, at usurious prices of the Merchants.

I therefore submit to Your Lordship, whether you will not be pleased to allow me the materials which I have requested for the erection of Barracks, either upon my paying a regulated price for them, or simply upon the responsibility inherent to my Situation?

I have made no Alteration whatever in the arrangement of the Armed Vessels, excepting the borrowing a man or two for the Gun Boats, and have at my own expence paid the soldiers for the wear of their necessaries, but I shall be obliged to Your Lordship to direct such orders to be transmitted to me, as relate to the Marine Department, and in particular to what Guns and Military Stores are allotted for a full Armament.

I am also to observe that it appears to me proper that all Guns and Stores not in the Service, should be under the Ordnance Department, and I should certainly have given orders on that head, did I not hope that under existing Circumstances Your Lordship would think it proper to make this place the Naval Arsenal of the Province, as it is secure and central, whilst Kingston cannot be rendered defensible, and is therefore, in my judgment totally improper for any Magazine, or if it can be prevented, any temporary deposit during the Winter Season.

On my occupying this Post, which I should have done, simply "As conducive to the safety of the King's Posts," had not the Establishment of Civil Government and consequent importance rendered it necessary, some carronades and cannon, supposed to be unserviceable, were brought hither from Carleton Island and the Wharf at Kingston. A small quantity of Ammunition was also conveyed hither, but not as I conceive, breaking in upon any appropriated Arrangement, it being

my wish, as far as possible, to avoid any alteration that Circumstances did not peremptorily require in Your Lordship's system during your absence. Captain Seward has of late applied to me to name the Bombardier who is at this place in charge of this Ammunition to Your Lordship, as Storekeeper.

The Principle on which I particularly asked for the Bombardier and two men from Niagara, to remain at this Post during the Winter, was to instruct the sailors of the Corps in the Artillery Exercise; their employment on the Onondago has prevented this measure. I also enclose to Your Lordship, an extract of a letter relative to the removal of the Subaltern Officers of the Artillery from the Posts of Niagara and Detroit, to Oswego and Michilimackinac respectively.

I also enclose to Your Lordship a return of Ordnance at Kingston above the proportion of the Post. My Ideas certainly are to make this place the deposit of all Stores whatever beyond the proportion of the respective Posts.

I beg to observe to Your Lordship, in respect to a communication of Captain Le Maistre's, by your direction, relative to the issue of Provisions to Persons not duly authorized; that in respect to the King's Printer, the agent who procured this Person at Montreal, was obliged to make the bargain with him, that he should receive rations. This will now be altered, and he shall have a compensation in money.

In respect to the Receiver General, &c., drawing rations on payment for them, so far from imagining it injurious to the King's Service, I thought it on the contrary provided it had embraced the whole of the Civil Establishment of this distant Colony. I beg to enclose for Your Lordship's information an extract from the papers delivered to me at Quebec, relative to this Subject. Your Lordship's commands are obeyed in preventing such issues in future. But, My Lord, while I consider that on the one hand, it is my duty to prevent the Bounty of Government being directed into improper channels, I know there must be a variety of Circumstances that must call upon me to exercise its Bounty in giving food to those, who otherwise, in this infant Colony, must absolutely starve. As an economical measure, of course I should prefer the execution of this duty by issuing an occasional supply from the King's Stores, rather than by purchase or money—some such cases, I believe, have already happened. Under my Ideas, derived from the Power which I understand had been formerly exercised, in future such proceedings will be stopped, till I am determined by Your Lordship whether I may purchase or issue provisions from the Military Stores for Acts of necessary Bounty flowing from my Civil Duties.

I have been the more explanatory in these statements, as I anxiously wish for Your Lordship's directions, that as you consider all interior Establishments as Provincial, and as those Establishments are to be carried only as a Military Force, how far the Arrangements with them are to be considered as Provincial. In an Establishment naturally so blended, I only wish for Your Lordship's directions, to execute them to the utmost of my Power.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

J. G. SIMCOE.

Lord Dorchester.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

YORK, March 3rd, 1794.

My Lord:

I do myself the honor of acknowledging the receipt of Your Lordship's letters, No. 3. 4. 5.

I take this opportunity of forwarding to Your Lordship the several late communications which have been made to me on Indian Affairs. A Delaware Chief has been sent here by Captain Brant to give me information that it was resolved at the Council of the Western Indians to send Deputies to General Wayne, and that they took the opportunity of proceeding in the absence of Colonel McKee, who was much displeased.

I particularly regret that the late Treaty between them and the United States has been rendered abortive, as its completion might have laid a solid foundation for that Barrier which I am directed by His Majesty's Ministers to consider as the main Object of their interference in respect to the United States and the Indians.

I have lamented from the commencement of the Treaty, the absence of Sir John Johnson, as I then apprehended there would not be that Union between Colonel McKee and Butler which appeared to be necessary for His Majesty's Service. I have reason to believe that my apprehensions have been verified, tho' I am by no means prepared to say, or believe that their Union, or the presence of Sir John Johnson would have materially altered the result of the Treaty.

In respect to the Lands on the Grand River, I shall still do my utmost to procrastinate any decision on them. I understand that Brant has lately held another Meeting on the Subject.

I request of Your Lordship the blank deed in the Surveyor General's Office, to which is attached the devices of the three Chiefs of the Missassaga Nation. One of these Chiefs died lately but I have little apprehension but that they will readily recognize the transaction, and the deed may be filled up in a manner perfectly corresponding with its original intent to mutual satisfaction. I have taken every step to its ratification.

In respect to the Marine on the Upper Lakes, I must beg leave to state to Your Lordship that on my arrival in this Province when the general Arrangement of all Commissions issued under the former Government was in agitation, it appeared that the Officers of that Department were termed Provincial and their Commissions evidently from Your Lordship in your Civil Capacity by a Commission which had determined. It was thought therefore proper to issue a Provincial Commission as in other cases.

One or two had actually been made out, when the Commander-in-Chief, Major General Clarke, having sent Mr. Earle¹ as Lieutenant for one of the Ships, I immediately stopped the issuing of Naval Commissions, as it is neither my temper nor principle to question the Authority of a Superior Officer, and as the Proclamation which I had issued in Council gives a legal existence to such Commissions, I was naturally led into this Idea, as Your Lordship will no doubt have seen, from my communications from His Majesty's Ministers, previous to my leaving England, and with Major-General Clarke since that period, that I consider the utility of this Colony to Great Britain, and its own existence to depend upon the erection

¹ Capt. Hugh Earle, afterward commander in the Provincial Marine; a native of Ayrshire, Scotland. His wife was Anne, a daughter of Sir William Johnson by Miss Molly Brant. He died at Kingston, Jan. 28, 1840, aged 71 years, and is buried in St. Paul's Churchyard, in the Johnson plot.

of a Naval Power, and the absolute command of its Lakes. In consequence to shew the Object, I recommended the Arms of this Colony to bear the emblems of such Dominion. I think it proper to state these Circumstances to Your Lordship; I am still of the same Opinion, that from the Civil Governor of this Province all the Naval Commissions should issue—but I never had the most remote Idea this Establishment should not be under the absolute Control and Direction of the Commander-in-Chief, whether bearing a Civil Commission or not, or whether the Navy be equipped by the Colony or Great Britain. Personally to Your Lordship and in my subordinate capacity to myself, it is indifferent from which source, Civil or Military, the power over the Marine is derived. I conceive it to be far otherwise with respect to the Colony of Great Britain. Many and obvious reasons lead me to believe that if at its outset, every exertion be not used to induce the Upper Canadian to consider the Provincial Marine as most respectable and necessary to his existence, and which must hereafter be paid for and supported by the Colony, that no period will arrive when that Province will be induced to take upon itself the Expence of such an Equipment, or to raise its Views to preserve the Superiority of the Lakes, so important for the future Interests of Great Britain.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

YORK, Upper Canada, Mar. 3, 1794.

My Lord:

I take this opportunity in Answer to the various Communications which I have received from Your Lordship, to state such Observations as occur to me for the promotion of the King's Service in respect to the Marine Department.

It is impossible that any recommendation or direction of mine can be necessary to enforce those Regulations and Orders which Your Lordship may think proper to establish for the Government of the Marine Department, and which there cannot exist a doubt but will be received with the most profound respect and instantaneous compliance by every Military Man under Your Lordship's command—and this obedience to Your Lordship's directions is the more to be depended upon, since not only the Headquarters commanded by the Field Officers of the several Regiments are the Ports of Transport, where such a Marine is principally employed, but that the lesser Posts are commanded by Officers who are entrusted with the execution of duties by no means beyond their rank or experience.

It therefore appears to me, My Lord, that if my Situation, as commanding the King's Forces could in ordinary cases be of any Public Utility, it must be by an Executive Control over the various Military Departments and personal inspection, that they should be carried on agreeably to those Principles and Orders, which I should receive from Your Lordship, and tho' generally speaking I trust such would not be required, yet accidents may occur which may render it necessary. The various duties which the Command in the Province of Upper Canada must embrace, its extent, its new Establishments, incident to the important change that has taken place in its Circumstances, a War upon its Frontier, in which it would be wilfully negligent not to see that the necessary neutrality of Great Britain

renders her suspected by both parties, all these Circumstances make it naturally impossible for me in person to execute my duty with that Vigilance, Promptitude, and Fidelity which is due to my own Military Character, and necessary to obtaining the Confidence of Your Lordship and the consequent Approbation of my Sovereign, which as in inferior Stations, I have hitherto received—so in the present employ for which I have been selected, I am the more emulous to preserve. Of course, My Lord, I applied to His Majesty's Ministers to allow me the subordinate branches of those Offices, into which the wise and established Custom of all Armies has distributed peculiar duties for the ease of transacting business, and its accurate performance. In the Adjutant-General's Department I was allowed a Brigade Major, as being absolutely wanted, but in that of the Quarter-Master-General I was not indulged, as there were "difficulties in increasing the American Staff, particularly as when that Establishment was fixed upon and provided by Parliament, no Officer of that description was supposed to be necessary." This was Mr. Dundas's reason for not complying with an Establishment that I conceived to be most necessary.

The impracticability of executing my duty satisfactorily to my own Ideas, and in a variety of Objects in which I regard it without this Office, was the more strongly impressed upon my mind, When I arrived at Kingston I believed it almost impossible to do my duty without this influential or essential Officer to superintend general arrangements, not to be confined to one Post or a single Duty, but to be detached wherever Public Exigency should require. I therefore appointed Captain Stevenson, who had been previously offered to His Majesty's Ministers for this employ, to act as Deputy-Quarter-Master-General. He had been recommended to me by very high authority, was the oldest Captain in the Province, and, what I thought of great importance, is fond of Maritime pursuits and had seen much naval Service in a variety of engagements in the West Indies. Under his direction, the Public Service was carried on with an activity that was universally acknowledged, and I have to regret that family circumstances obliged him to solicit leave to return to England.

But, My Lord, this particular Branch, the Navy of the Province of Upper Canada (as well as every Department within it), I consider as Subject to one uniform, general, and invariable Principle, namely, at its very outset a foundation should be laid for those Establishments, as ultimately shall be necessary for its Protection, and that may gradually relieve Great Britain from its Colonial Expences. It seemed to be politic, just, and necessary that such Establishment should be formed upon the British Model, that in perfect parity with the British Constitution, at the moment of its extension to the Colony, all its consequent Officers and permanent Arrangements should be so created that in both Substance and Form, Power and Execution, they might in every stage of its Progress assimilate and cement the Province with the Parent State.

In pursuance therefore, My Lord, of these general Principles, and to which in an Object of greater Importance, the Civil Arrangements, I have steadily adhered to, as applicable to the Marine Department, I recommended to His Majesty's Ministers to select from those who were offered by Your Lordship as proper Persons for the Legislature of Upper Canada, Captain Grant, the Senior Officer on the Lakes, and requested that he might be placed in the Executive Council; at once to be stamped with eminence and respectability of his professional situation, and that the Government might avail themselves, if necessary, of his experience therein, and in this recommendation, look forward to that period in which it might be proper to confide to the Officers of the Marine, to Professional Men, the immediate

Superintendence of that Department, subordinate to the Commander-in-Chief thro' the Lieut.-Governor. I presume Captn. Grant is fully competent to his technical trust and worthy of confidence, and as such, I think it proper, therefore, in obedience to Your Lordship's commands, to offer my Opinion that it would be for the Public Service, he should have the general Superintendancy of the Marine Department of the Province of Upper Canada, with a new Commission and Rank.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble Lord Dorchester.

FROM JOHN HAMILTON TO J. G. SIMCOE.

Dear Sir:

The French Fleet consisting of two 74-Gun ships, six large frigates and four sloops of war, still remains in the Chesapeake. It is preparing to convoy a numerous fleet of Merchantmen, loaded with sugar, coffee and flour and I presume will sail in all this month.

A body of men commanded by General Clark has marched from Kentucky to proceed down the Mississippi against New Orleans, and although the General Government of the United States discountenance the proceedings, I must beg leave to assure you that this country is ripe for an attack on the British as well as the Spanish settlements on this Continent.

His Majesty's Frigate *Daedalus* is still here, and notwithstanding any reports that may have reached you, remains untaken. She will sail the first convenient opportunity.

It may afford you satisfaction to be informed that His Royal Highness Prince Edward, sailed from Boston in the Roebuck Packet for the West Indies on the 15th Ultimo.

I have the honor to be with great respect, dear Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN HAMILTON.

BRITISH CONSUL'S OFFICE, NORFOLK, VIRGINIA, 14th March, 1794.

The Honorable John Graves Simcoe, Esquire, &c., &c., &c.

FROM JOSEPH CHEW TO THOMAS ASTON COFFIN.

MONTREAL, 6th March, 1794.

Dear Sir:

You Cannot think it more Extraordinary that Lord Dorchester's Reply to the Indians should have been Copied and Circulated than I did when I heard of it, indeed I scarcely gave Credit to the report until a Gentleman I could depend upon assured me that he had seen the original under his Lordship's hand.

I have heard that Lamothe delivered the Reply to Colonel Campbell from whom a Gentleman got it to Copy, by this means sundry Copies were taken, and it became Public, occasioning many Conjectures, &c. as Neither Colonel Campbell or Lamothe mentioned the matter to me and I saw none of the Indians, the above

is the best information I have been able to come at, how the Reply came to be Circulated.

Yesterday I heard that one Smith of this Town, who is gone to Albany, had a Copy which a few days ago he read to a number of People at Gill's Tavern at St. Johns. A Mr. McNeal Lately from Boston last Evening was (torn) tion for a Copy to take with him (torn) to return to day—I am not ab (torn) he got one or not, had I known (torn) the Matter before the Reply (torn) made Public I would (torn) Endeavoured to have prevented it. I have got a Copy from a Rough one, believe it does not differ materially from the original, it shall be sent to Colonel McKee by the First Opportunity and I will Acquaint him with the Circumstances and the Manner of Obtaining it.

I am, &c.

JOSEPH CHEW.

A Young Gentleman from Albany tells me he saw Tomo¹ of Caughnawaga there who told him he was going to Philadelphia on Great Business.

Thomas Aston Coffin, Esquire, Quebec.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM MR. NATHL. LINES TO JOSEPH CHEW,
SECRETARY OF INDN. AFFAIRS DATED KINGSTON,
11TH MARCH, 1794.

"A message has been Received from the Oneida Indians to the Mohawk Indians in the Bay of Quinti requesting them to inquire whether Government wou'd not indulge them in the same way that has been done before to some of their Brethren who have come into the Country, as they wou'd be glad to come and live in the Bay of Quinti with their Brothers the Mohawk Indians,—Captain John gives me this information and says he Expects the Oneidas will Send in the Course of this month for an Answer.

"Captain John will be Glad to know whether any Nails and Window Glass for their Church & School House will come up in the Spring as they can do nothing without those Articles."

MONTREAL, 31st March, 1794.

A True Extract

JOSEPH CHEW, S.I.A.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM JOSEPH CHEW TO THOMAS ASTON
COFFIN, DATED AT MONTREAL, 31ST MARCH, 1794.

"I have also inclosed an Extract of a Letter from Lines respecting a Message Sent by the Oneida Indians to the Mohawks of the Bay De Quinti, the Oneidas have sold their Land to the State of New York, and now are wishing to become a Burden to His Majesty's Government, those [that came here about the Time Sir John left the Country gave little Proof of their Attachment to the King's Government."

¹An Iroquois chief, otherwise known as Thomas.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

YORK, March 14th, 1794.

My Lord:

I have the honor of acknowledging Your Lordship's Letter and its enclosure Your Speech to the different Indian Nations assembled at the Miamis, &c., which I received last week.

I think it proper to set off immediately for Detroit, to execute Your Lordship's Commands, and only wait till the present intensely cold weather, which has suddenly set in, shall permit me to pass down the Lake to Burlington Bay. I mean to proceed to the Grand River, to have canoes built on the River Thames, and hope in six or seven days from the Grand River to be at Detroit.

It appears of great moment that His Majesty's Troops should be in possession of the Posts which Your Lordship intimates, before any part of Mr. Wayne's Army, shall, from the tenor of information received, approach thither.

From the tenor of Mr. Knox's Instructions and his Commands to Genl. Sinclair, there appears to me to be little doubt but that the Possession of these Posts will be construed into hostility; whether such shall immediately take effect may depend upon the temper of Genl. Wayne and his Force comparatively to the Strength of the positions which may be taken.

At present it appears to me that *Turtle Island*¹ may be rendered safe, but that any Post on the Continent if attacked, must be considered as necessarily sacrificed; but of these matters I shall be a more adequate judge by the information I shall collect at Detroit, and, if it can be done with propriety, by personal investigation. I have directed the Engineer, Mr. Pilkington, to accompany me to Detroit, and if, upon consultation with him, I shall find business at Michilimackinac to be of inferior moment, I shall suspend his going to that Post, agreeably to his general directions, to a more convenient Season. I will do my utmost to fulfill Your Lordship's Instructions, relative to the Naval Armament. The Detroit is not defensible as an Harbour against such an Artillery as Mr. Wayne is reported to have with him, and as he may easily draw from Fort Pitt in particular, as being frozen over during the Winter, it affords no protection but by an extensive series of fortifications impracticable to be erected on a sudden, and probably impolitic, as well as inefficacious in the result. I do not conceive it possible, My Lord, to draw any force from any part of this Country that may materially contribute to the defence of Detroit, and not leave the other Posts exposed to insult; nor do I think it possible by any collection of Troops in this Country to resist Wayne's direct attack, should he attempt to take possession of Detroit, with the force he is confidently represented to bring with him. In respect to the Militia, when I determined to communicate to Mr. Hammond by Major of Brigade Littlehales, that considering the River aux Raisin as in His Majesty's settlement, I should resist any attempt of the Armies of the United States to pass that river, I immediately made known my determination to Mr. Baby, the Lieutenant of the County, and in confidence to him and Colonel England, I desired that every attention might be paid to the Militia of that District, and that they might be called together and reviewed. In my former visit to Detroit, Mr. Montigni, at my desire, went to Detroit settlement; my wishes were to withdraw the Inhabitants, if necessary, over the Strait—They protested their Loyalty in ample terms. I know Colonel McKee is of the Opinion they are not to be trusted. The people of Detroit, as may be

¹ Turtle Island, in Lake Erie, lies off the mouth of the Miamis, now the Maumee River, and Toledo City.

expected in trading communities, are divided into parties, full of petty emulation and trivial jealousies. To endeavour to reconcile them as much as possible to the King's Interest, I had intended, with my family, to have resided there for six months. The immediate duties which Your Lordship has directed prevent me from that measure, but I shall pay every attention in my power to that District, and shall be very happy if I shall be induced to entertain a different Idea of the fidelity and zeal of the Inhabitants than I am justified in doing at present. By the Opinion of the Military Commandant, the taking Post at the Miamis is certainly well calculated to call forth all their exertion as it naturally interests their Trade.

I had desired of Col. England to inform me of which Season, the Felicity could best be spared to go to Matchadash Bay, and also to enquire whether a small Vessel, whose construction I much approve, if necessary, could be purchased for Government purposes. The necessity of occupying Matchadash and Long Point, become to me every hour more evident, in particular as I know of no other Ports, in which our shipping could find shelter, should the Army of the States occupy Detroit. The River Thames and the Grand River (Ouse), respectively, will always afford means of building galleys or boats to command Lake Sinclair, or assist in the defence of Erie; but I assure Your Lordship that in traversing the fine Country between the Grand River and the Detroit, as a Military Man, I was concerned to see how very indefensible it was against a superior Enemy. It is the most so of any space of the same extent that I have seen. I shall transmit a Copy of Your Lordship's Answer to a Message of the Upper Nations, &c., to Colonel Butler. Captain Brant being dangerously ill, I sent the Surgeon to visit him; it is doubtful whether he is now alive, tho' I am inclined to believe he is. I shall also give him Your Lordship's Answer. Should the reconciliation between him and the Senecas which was effected last year, be sincere, it might be of the utmost benefit to His Majesty's Service. I propose to return to Niagara by the last week in May, to meet the Legislature.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

YORK, March 14th, 1794.

My Lord:

In Answer to Mr. Coffin's letter by Your Lordship's directions of the 17th of Feby., I beg leave to say that due attention shall be paid that no lands be given away on the Ottawa River till Your Lordship shall communicate with me further on this Subject. It appears to me to be necessary that this Arrangement in respect to what belongs to the Indian Nations and what to His Majesty, be terminated as soon as possible, not only as it respects the general political Interests of His Majesty, but that Individuals from sinister purposes may not sport with the passions of the Indians, and by their particular Influence become injurious to the general progress of the Settlements.

It is with the greatest satisfaction that I now see the Onondago afloat, and that she will be in a capacity to proceed to Niagara, (where Mr. Bouchette, by a commendable prudence, seems inclined to convey her previous to her undertaking

her voyage to Kingston), so soon as the River shall be open. Lake Erie has been uncommonly frozen over this year; in this Port, had it been necessary, vessels with proper moorings might at all times have rode securely, and generally speaking, free from ice. I am very glad that Your Lordship has directed the Vessel now speaking of and at present building at Kingston, to be completed without delay; the material defects of the present model are too obvious not to be avoided; and in other respects it appears to me to be an useful class of transport.

In regard to any further Stores or Provisions being requisite for this Province, on which Your Lordship is pleased to require, that I should communicate my Ideas if I find such an Augmentation necessary, I must beg leave to observe that the nature of the Communication between the Lakes and Montreal as a simple consideration, certainly in my apprehension renders it eligible that Magazines of Stores and Provisions should be erected within the Province, sufficiently ample for its defence, in every variety of view that its peculiar Circumstances and Extent can possibly require, but in truth, such is the present Situation of the Province that it is difficult to say where they can be placed in sufficient security against desultory attack. It is probable that Niagara may afford this security, but I am by no means prepared to affirm that against such an Enemy as we may have to contend with, it is more than probable. But admitting this Fort to be capable of a tolerable or even a good defence, there will be no possibility of removing from it, any Magazines, whenever it shall be attacked, and if it should fall, all its deposit will become a serious acquisition to its assailants, a fatal, if not an irrecoverable loss to the Province and His Majesty's Interests.

The late orders which I have received from Your Lordship relative to the preventing of Ordnance Stores destined for one purpose, being applied to another, I think makes it peculiarly proper for me to state to Your Lordship my wishes, that in case it should appear necessary for me to direct any Military Stores from the Garrison of Niagara to any other quarter, some Line of Discrimination may be drawn by Your Lordship to regulate what may be considered as appropriated to the defence of that particular Post, or placed there as a deposit for general Exigencies. The same Arrangement I should be glad to have made in respect to Detroit. If a surplus also be lodged at Michilimackinac so as in this respect to render that Post independent of Detroit, it might possibly be of Public Advantage.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

Private.

YORK, 14th March, 1794.

My Lord:

The present state of Affairs seems to require that I should fully state to Your Lordship such Opinions as I may have formed on the means of protecting this Province, and have not been already communicated to you in those various suggestions which I have offered as a uniform system of defence, that I cannot but regret has not been hitherto adopted.

The divisions among the Indians operating to induce the remnant of the Western Confederacy to ask a Peace of the United States, will necessarily draw after it the submission of the Six Nations, to such terms as shall be dictated to them,

unless Your Lordship's Speech and the Post now to be taken shall encourage them to maintain their Resolution.

Colonel McKee has always maintained that it was unadvisedly done to discourage the Senecas from settling at the Grand River; he considers the *Corn Planter* as totally in the Interests of the United States. That Chieftain assured me to the contrary. He did not attend the late Meeting at Buffaloe Creek on account of illness, as it was said, and I am inclined to believe. He told me that the United States should not settle at Presqu'Isle. It is understood that he sold that land without a right to do so, and fearful of the upbraidings of the Indians and the consequent diminution of his Authority, is anxious to prevent the sale from taking effect.

I am told that Brant is likely to recover; I am convinced that he is at the bottom of the complaint made to Your Lordship against Colonel McKee. He has much at heart that some provision should be made for his family in case of his death.

I did not hesitate when he went to the Council to promise him, that I should exert my utmost influence to obtain, in case of such an event, the King's Bounty to be extended to his family and if in my passage thro' the Grand River Village I find him alive, I will still continue my promise. In case of the Western Indians not having made Peace with General Wayne, on the supposition that they should collect in Force to oppose him, that *Brant* and *Corn Planter* should be true, and that hostilities should commence between Great Britain and the United States, if such a combination of events had happened at this present Season of the year, I should have felt myself justified for the good of the King's Service, in attempting to execute the following series of operations. A similar conjuncture, is, My Lord, not likely now to happen, but it is possible that detached parts of the Arrangement may hereafter come under Your Lordship's consideration. I am sure that you will favourably receive the present communication, tho' nothing should be offered but what is perfectly familiar to Your Lordship, in respect to the defensive part of the Plan, or that may appear too hazardous in regard to Your Lordship's general View in that which leads to offensive expeditions. I had proposed in *person* with the Garrison of Kingston and detachments from the Queen's Rangers and Fifth Regiment, and a select party of the more civilized Indians, with every demonstration of Force, to have proceeded up Oswego River, and broke ground at Three Rivers Point, as if determined to erect a strong fortress there; at the same time, I should have directed a detachment from Niagara and Colonel Butler and Brant to proceed where the practicable road from Buffaloe Creek to the Genesee, crosses that which leads from Genesee to Niagara. On these points being occupied, I should have sent to Canandarque and have offered to the Inhabitants of the Genesee a neutrality or an Indian War, and have bought all their Cattle and such other Provisions as might drain the Country. If it had been accepted; as it most probably would be, the Corps at the Cross Roads should return. The Country in front of Niagara would be perfectly reconnoitred. That at the Three Rivers Point should also be withdrawn, probably on favorable Stipulations. The works at Oswego should be put into security adequate to the Post, by leaving part of the present works, or giving it other advantages. I should then give the signal for the *Corn Planter* to collect his People, so as to prevent any spies from approaching anywhere near Presqu'Isle, whither I should proceed with all expedition, taking with me select detachments and joining off Long Point one of the 24th, with two or three Howitzers, forming on the whole four hundred rank and file. The *Corn Planter* should be directed to surprise Fort Franklin. After his march,

the whole of the Corps, with a detachment of Brant's Indians, should follow, discontinuing the preparations for the occupation of Presqu'Isle. It is presumed that means might be contrived to fall down the French Creek in canoes or rafts.—

If Fort Franklin should fall, under pretence of enlarging it, it should be demolished by a Corps of Pioneers and soldiers, who should have been brought thus far to assist in the conveyance of Provisions, and who might return to the Shipping at Presqu'Isle, or remain in part at the Post, as incidents should render most advisable.

In the mean time, by such means as should be found necessary, the Troops should go down to Fort Pitt, the apparent Object of the Campaign, if possible undiscovered, the Indians proceeding by their several paths, conveying to given points certain Provisions. Proper manifestos should be distributed wherever necessary; every species of canoe or boat should be occupied.

At Fort Pitt, it is reasonable to suppose, boats might be accumulated in sufficient quantity, by means of sending parties to the several Creeks for the whole Force. When that should be done, the Blockade or pretended attack on Fort Pitt, if it had not previously surrendered, should cease, and the Armament should proceed with the utmost expedition down the Ohio for Fort Washington.

The bendings of that River seem to admit of parties of Indians and active Soldiers being landed from time to time to destroy the craft on the several Creeks, or to collect Provisions by paying for them, which would do no injury to the Inhabitants, without any material delay of the Expedition. The destination might always be supposed for some intermediate Point between Fort Pitt and Washington.

The Shipping on Lake Erie at Sandusky, &c., and parties of Indians from the Western Army at different points agreed upon, might serve to communicate; so that as nearly as possible to my approaching Fort Washington, that Army should oppose Wayne, particularly to prevent his detaching or retreat.

Lieut.-Col. England, with all the force he could muster, leaving a small detachment in Fort Lernoult at Detroit and the guard of the Town to its Militia, should occupy the Miamis Rapids.

On my arrival at Fort Washington, Circumstances must determine whether that Post should be attacked, or whether the great Object of the attempt, starving Wayne's Army by breaking in upon his lesser Communications would not be more speedily effected. Such, My Lord, is the outline of the Operations which have occurred to me and was I at liberty to act at this very moment, and the Indians united, which I should certainly risk. I know it would be hazardous, but if successful, it would be decisive.

The present disunion among the Indians renders it impracticable. Circumstances may arise (and as I have spared no pains of body and mind, I shall continue my endeavours to make the best advantage of them), Circumstances may arise to restore the Union among these Nations, and if so, every step that Wayne advances, leaves him more exposed to the Consequences of the Movement I have sketched out. A movement possibly might be made to his rear from Sandusky.

In respect to the preparatory one in the Genessee, I must observe, that Niagara may easily be besieged; that any force can be collected for such an operation; that every Indian path furnishes the Enemy with the means of conveying their Provisions *by driving cattle with two bags of flour and one of salt* to salt it down. "Was I to do this, Colonel," said General Hull to me (when I declined to permit him victualling the Indians) "and salting cattle at Buffaloe Creek, build boats there and carry Provisions to Sandusky, would you not call it a good New England trick."

The most practicable approach to Niagara on the side of Ontario, is by an unused, tho' well known Indian path, leading to and from an ancient Indian Village, somewhere above Allen's Mill and keeping between the Creeks which fall into Lake Ontario and the Tonewante. The ridge is dry, and a hundred Pioneers would make it practicable for an Army, only preceding it one day, but all the New Englanders are Pioneers. From Presqu'Isle to Buffalo Creek there is no difficulty.

I have every reason on earth, both public and private, My Lord, to regret the extension of War to this infant Colony, but should it take place, I hope to conduct myself so as to obtain your good opinion, and to render it manifest that a devoted Attachment to my King and Country continues to be the ruling Principle of my Life.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM HENRY DUNDAS TO J. G. SIMCOE.

WHITEHALL, 16th March, 1794.

Lt. Govr. Simcoe.

No. 3.

Sir:

I have received and laid before the King your Letters of the numbers and Dates mentioned in the margin. The first of these respects the Acts passed in the last Session.

No. 17 —16th Sept. 1793.	" "	I think you did very right in passing the Marriage
17 —16th " "	" "	Act, as it stood, in order to avoid the difficulties
18.—20th. " "	" "	arising from a desire in the House of Assembly
Private.—20th. " "	" "	to extend the power of solemnizing Marriages

beyond what was proper. At the same time, the Opinion which you have received of His Majesty's Advocate, Attorney and Solicitor General, will enable you in the next Sessions to make such Amendments as appear to be requisite. While on the subject of the Acts, which are very properly commented upon, I take this opportunity of observing to you that in transmitting them each Act should be respectively signed by the Speakers of the two Houses, at the time of its passing, and by you when you give your assent, and should be under the seal of the Province, either separately or connected with those which accompany it.

I am sorry to observe anything like a tendency, either in the Legislative Council or Assembly to oppose His Majesty's Government, and in matters too, which are so evidently of a beneficial nature to the Province.

But much is to be allowed to the Novelty of the Duties imposed on them, and to the light in which they are called upon to view things, namely, as not connected with this or that local consideration, but with the Protection and Welfare of the Province at large, a mode of viewing things naturally repugnant to the first impressions created in their minds. Nothing could tend more completely to the continuance of such first impressions, and of course to a narrow and contracted Policy than the Idea of the Members receiving Wages from their several constituents; an Idea, which I trust will not be entertained by the Assembly for a moment.

The Conduct of Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Cartwright appears to be such as by no means entitle them to the favour or Attention of His Majesty's Government in

Canada. I make no doubt therefore of your having already represented their Conduct and their Principles to Lord Dorchester; for nothing is more destructive both in example and in effect than that the influence, flowing from the Executive Authority, should be exerted against that Authority.

I have received His Majesty's Pleasure in favour of Mr. Shaw's succeeding to the vacant seat in the Legislative Council and have accordingly given directions for making out his Appointment. His Mandamus to the Executive Council has long since been passed and both one and the other will be delivered to Mr. Shaw's Agent upon his calling for them and paying the Fees.

The Plan for future Townships transmitted in your Letter of the same number and date with that which I have been answering, seems in placing the Reserves for the Crown and the Church, to have attended to the Spirit and Principles of the late Canada Act.

Although there may be a good reason for making those Reserves in the Back-Lands, in the particular Township of York, yet in that Township also, there should be a Reservation in the Front Concessions for the Glebe and Residence of the Clergyman, who shall be appointed the Rector under the Provisions of the Act. It was at first proposed to make the Reserves in Lower Canada in large Masses, but the same has been laid aside, in consequence of directions from hence.

I have particularly attended to your Letter, No. 18, & to the Charts of the River Thames, Long Point, and the Harbour of York, which accompanied it—The Drawing you transmitted of the last of these was graciously received by the King.

The exertions which you have made in person, to trace out and investigate the precise course of the River Thames, & the situations of Long Point & of York, are highly both to your Credit and very satisfactory to His Majesty's Servants.

I am certainly of Opinion that the Welfare and the Security of Upper Canada will be the more intimately blended and connected with each other, in proportion as the Inhabitants look to the Lakes, both as the means of their Wealth and of their Defence. In point of Defence, I look upon Gun Boats and other Vessels of Force, but especially Gun Boats, as the natural Defence of the Province¹; and that such Defence would be obtained at a much less Expence both of Men and Money, than by any Land Forces, which were to have an equal effect. This being the case, the next question is, where to establish the Chief Naval Station of the Province, and herein I am of Opinion with you, that York is the most proper place for it. I have communicated to the Master General of the Ordnance your proposed mode of occupying this Place, with Lt. Pilkington's estimate of the Expence and I hope to receive His Grace's opinion thereupon, previous to the departure of this Letter; at all events, I dare say His Grace will not object to such a mode as your local information shall suggest, & which Lord Dorchester shall approve of.

I also agree with you that the Place upon the River Thames which you have marked as the scite for London, is well situated and judiciously chosen for the future Capital; but as the Defence of the Colony is the first Object, if that Defence should be Maritime, it follows that the Settlement of York is the most important for the present, not as the future Capital, but as the Chief Place of Strength and Security for the Naval Force of the Province; keeping in view the Defence of the Province, a Station on Lake Erie, for the Security of the Shipping of that Lake would be the next Object; Long Point appears to be well situated for this purpose, but if, as

¹ The correctness of this view was amply proven later, when in the war of 1812, the defeat of Barclay's fleet on Lake Erie was soon followed by the advance of U. S. forces along the Thames River, and in 1814 by the destruction of Port Dover in May, and by Gen. McArthur's raid in November.

has been represented to me, it is unhealthy, the advantage of its Situation would be thereby rendered nugatory. Its being settled and inhabited may remove the objection by removing the Cause, but until that happens, it would be inexpedient to erect any Works for its Defence. Perhaps some other Harbour to the East or West of Long Point, and to which there is no objection, may be discovered, in which case, I am of opinion it should be occupied and rendered fit for the reception and security of the shipping of Lake Erie, at as small an Expence as possible, and in such manner, as in consequence of your communications to him, Lord Dorchester shall approve of. A Naval Station at York and another on Lake Erie will of course lead to a Maritime Force as the natural Defence of the Province and with the assistance of such a Naval Officer as I have in my former Letter alluded to, in the person of Captain Shank, would very soon place the Province beyond the fear of future interruptions. In the mean while, it is proper to keep His Majesty's Vessels on the Lakes, at least those, which from their present state and construction, are worthy of it, in such a condition as to be fit for Service. I must also observe that another Advantage will arise from the occupation of York, and of some similar Station on Lake Erie, I mean that of connecting our Forces more immediately with the Posts in our Possession.

But if to these the occupation of London was now to be added, it appears from Your Letters, that they altogether would require a greater Force than can be spared at this moment. Whilst on this Subject I take the opportunity of suggesting whether it may not be proper, in case no material opposition should be made to it, to enact that the Militia should in case of Actual Hostilities, be liable to serve on the Lakes, as well as on shore. Such a Provision might eventually be of great Service in manning the Gun Boats of the Province.

It is certainly of material consequence that the Indian Presents should be distributed with economy and with effect, and the Plan suggested by you, and recommended by Sir John Johnson to the Commander-in-Chief, appears to me to be well worthy of attention, and I have no doubt will meet Lord Dorchester's approbation. The general control & management of Indian Affairs are necessarily vested in the Commander in Chief, but there can be no doubt but that in his Orders and Directions, which are at present addressed to the Superintendent General, he will, at all times, be very glad to be assisted by such communications, as he shall from time to time, receive from the Lieut. Governor and Executive Council of Upper Canada, who from their collective information, may be of the greatest use, in reducing the management of Indian Affairs into such a regular, systematic form, (which appears to be much wanted), as will combine the greatest effect with the least expence.

Since writing the above I have received and laid before The King your Letters dated the 8th of October and the 10th of November last. The Communication which by your vigour and Assiduity, you have been enabled to trace between York and Lake Huron is of great importance, and must prove beneficial to the Province in the several points of view, in which you have considered it.—In order to facilitate this communication you will of course give every encouragement for settling these parts of the Route which are most convenient as stages for the Traders and as Depots for all Articles of Merchandize in their passage from York to Lake Huron.—There is no doubt but that the communication in question is in favour of the occupation of London, as soon as ever the strength of the Country will admit of it,—but it will not be possible, at this moment, to increase the Regiments in Canada to their present Establishment by Recruits sent from hence—at the same time the Bounty allowed in this Country, which is £15 per man, may operate to that

effect by raising a sufficient number of Recruits in the Canadas to complete the Regiments there, and Lord Dorchester will by this Opportunity, receive directions to grant the like Bounty in Canada as is granted in England.

I am very sorry to observe from your letter of the 10th of Novr. that the Lake Indians have joined the Six Nations in their Secession from the General Confederacy, and I think from your statement that Captain Brant's conduct is even something more than merely suspicious, especially when I observe that his views and his Conduct tend altogether to implicate this Country in the present Hostilities between the Indians and the American States.

Ensign McCausland, who brought your Letter, brings Intelligence of the Indians having cut to pieces Genl Wayne's rear Guard, consisting of 200 men, near the Miamis Village, with the loss only of one man on their part; and that they had taken 70 loaded Horses, which accompanied General Wayne's Army. Some part of this Intelligence seems to be corroborated by an American Paper of the 18th of Decr. last.

Should the event of the present Campaign prove unsuccessful to the American Army under Genl Wayne I cannot but still hope that the States will open their eyes to the Advantages of a Final Treaty upon the principles you are already acquainted with.—The Muskingham Boundary, as delivered to Lord Dorchester in the year 1791, or any other which will leave a sufficient Interval between his Majesty's Provinces and the American States, is the greatest object to aim at.

On the Subject of the Commissariat, the Indian Department, and the Shipping of Upper Canada, I have already in this, and in my Letter to you, No. 2 of the 2d of October last, given you my opinion, and I have only to add, that altho' the above Departments are necessarily under the general superintendence & control of the Commander in Chief, there can be no doubt but that, as far as they relate to the Province under your Government, he will, at all times, be happy to avail himself of your representations in all things, which may tend to their being well and œconomically executed.

I take this opportunity of informing you that a Letter will be transmitted to Lord Dorchester by this Packet, containing His Majesty's Instructions to His Lordship, to raise without delay, Two Provincial Battalions of 750 men each for the Defence of the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada. These Battalions when completed, will, I conceive, allow you to occupy the scite fixed upon for London, and, in the mean time, I see no objection to your taking any preparatory Steps for that purpose, the adoption of which do not require an immediate Military Force to be stationed there.

I am, &c.,

HENRY DUNDAS.

Endorsed:—Drat To Lt. Govr. Simcoe, March, 1794. No. 3.

FROM HENRY DUNDAS TO J. G. SIMCOE.

WHITEHALL, 16th March, 1794.

Lt.-Govr. Simcoe:

No. 4.

Sir:

I have received and laid before The King your Letters of the 23d and 24th of August last with their respective Inclosures.

I have in my Letter to Lord Dorchester of the 9th of November last, being in answer to Letters from M. General Clarke, expressed my entire Approbation of the

friendly and impartial manner in which you conducted yourself towards the Commissioners from the American States, as well as Towards the Indians, and in my letter to His Lordship of the 8th Jany. last, as well as on the present occasion, I have given my Opinion of the importance of a Naval System of Defence for the Province of Upper Canada.

The Addresses of both Houses of the Legislature inclosed in yours of the 23d of August are very satisfactory to His Majesty.

I have transmitted to the Lords of the Treasury for their Consideration a Copy of your Letter of the 24th of August last with the several Inclosures it refers to.

I have no doubt but the Commissary General at Quebec, will be directed by Lord Dorchester to take such steps in supplying Upper Canada, as, from your Communications to Lord Dorchester, shall appear to have a tendency, both to benefit the Province, and to reduce the expence of the supplies themselves.

My Letter, No. 3, which will accompany this renders a further Answer to your Letters, as above mentioned, unnecessary.

I am &c.

HENRY DUNDAS.

Endorsed:—Drat. To Lt. Govr. Simcoe. March, 1794. No. 4.

FROM JAMES MONROE TO THOMAS JEFFERSON.

PHILADELPHIA, March 16th, '94.

(Extract.)

What course it will be proper for us to take in the present emergency becomes daily more difficult to decide. The aggressions of Britain have increased to a height to silence the voice of her friends, or nearly so. She regards no kind of form in the pursuit of our property, seizing whatever she can lay her hands on. Our vessels w^{ch} remain are driven into harbour here & will I apprehend scarcely leave it again for the present. An embargo is proposed with the view of cutting off supplies from the B^h West Indies, necessary in aid of her present operations there.

Urgent as the crisis is, the embarrassment increases still further from the consideration that not the least confidence can be reposed in our Executive council. To embark in a war when the whole favor of the country will be in the hands of the enemy of the publick liberty, a few characters only excepted, will be more dangerous than any now menac'd from B. and yet to take no step seems to evince a pusillanimity w^{ch} will degrade us as a nation, & likewise suffer the ruin of our commerce & every other interest connected with it to take place.

What will be the issue of our affairs time can only develope, but certain it is that at present the prospect is most wretched & gloomy. I had like to have mentioned that as a remedy it was talked of by the fiscal party, to send an Envoy Exty. to Engld to complain of these injuries & seek redress, & that H[amilton] was spoken of for this mission. As the situation is in some measure a parallel one I sho'd think it more suitable to employ John Dickinson, who I believe drew the last petition of Congress to the king, in the course of the late revolution.

(Printed in the "Writings of James Monroe", edited by S. L. Hamilton Vol. I. pp. 287-9.)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

YORK, March 16th, 1794.

My Lord:

Since I did myself the honor of writing to Your Lordship by the return of the Express, Mr. Allen,¹ a person whom Col. Butler has mentioned to me as a Loyalist to be depended upon, has arrived from Detroit.

He brings intelligence that in consequence of a favorable dream amongst the Indians, purporting that they should obtain Victories similar to those which heretofore has attended them, they were in the highest Spirits; that they had threatened to tomahawk the Delawares who went to Mr. Wayne, and Mr. Allen delivered to Capt'n. Brant, (who is recovering), a Message from Egushwa, signifying his determination to assist his Brethren.

Egushwa and his adherents are of those who at the last General Council seceded from the Confederacy and agreed to follow the Six Nations, as in various Communications has been detailed to Your Lordship.

I see by an article in the Philadelphia papers, Feby 4th, that among other preparations for the defence of Pennsylvania, it is intended that the Bill now passing in its third Session, "It is to empower the Governor to draft some of the Artillery, &c., &c., and to station them at Presqu'Isle."

Your Lordship in my various communications will no doubt have seen of what magnitude I have always considered Presqu'Isle, in respect to the means it affords of offence in this quarter.

I had previously directed Mr. Johnson of the Indian Department to meet me at Cap'n. Brant's; and I shall the more strongly from this Circumstance, press upon him the necessity of using all his influence with O'Beal and the "Farmer's Brother," the most respectable Chief, and in general with the Six Nations, to defeat the purpose of the Pennsylvanians in this quarter. I have mentioned to Your Lordship that Mr. Ogden denied the purchase to be the concern of himself and Morris. Mr. Allen says that he apprehends that Morris and Wilson, a Lawyer, formerly in Congress, are the principal owners of this purchase. He was applied to, to build a Mill there, and gave me a paper in the writing of Nicholson, the Controller General of Pennsylvania, to that purpose. Mr. Allen says that Morris has sold for a Million Dollars to an Holland Company, three Millions of Acres of lands, of which he has the deed; that he has received the money and pays interest for it. Mr. Allen understands that next year is the term allotted in which he is to place the Company in peaceable Possession. I understand from various quarters, that he is to meet the Indians in May for this purpose. Mr. Allen had this information from Mr. Capinou, Agent for the Holland Company, and whom he understands to be in the employment of the Jewish Court. Allen sold lands given to His children to Morris—at least their improvements. Morris paid him a sum of money, and as the lands were granted to Allen's children (I presume by an Indian woman), I have before me a deed in which Morris promises to obtain for Allen, a third of an hundred thousand Acres, indefinitely, in any part of the Territory of the United States, provided he can obtain from the Indians a Grant to that extent. Mr. Allen assured me that Mr. Williamson, late Captain in the 25th, Agent for Mr. Pulteney's purchase, read to him a Copy of a Letter publicly, which, he said he had sent to me, notifying that he meant to settle at the Great Sodus, and that

¹Ebenezer Allen, formerly a volunteer and afterwards an officer in the Indian Department under Colonel Guy Johnson, in the war of the American Revolution. He had obtained a large grant of land on the Thames near Chatham, where he had built a mill. His veracity was doubtful.

the British had no right to maintain a Post at Oswego to the prejudice of the Settlement. Mr. Williamson has in some little intercourse with me behaved civilly; but of late I have heard from different quarters of very improper Speeches of this Gentleman's.

The Sodus communicates with the Mohawk and Oneida Lake, by a Portage of only eight miles, on which there is a good carriage road. The Sodus is the best Harbour on the South Side of the Lake; I have always considered that it may in the course of events, be necessary to seize it, and to do that promptly. I have always intended to erect two Mills at this place of timbers, musket proof, grooved in such a manner as that they may be easily removed by our Vessels, and serve as Blockhouses and Barracks, wherever it may be necessary to place them; Carronades, as at Sodus; probably in some outworks, a few round shot, stones may serve for Grape, and some shells, being all the apparatus necessary for such temporary purposes. Mr. Allen seems to be of opinion in case of War, that upon its threats the greater part of the Inhabitants of the Genesees would quit that Country, being New Englanders, and as he says, incapable of being good Subjects. By attending to the Seasons, he thinks it might be possible to bring Artillery from Pennsylvania to Bath, but the Country being of defiles and thickly wooded, such a communication might easily be destroyed. Berkzie,¹ the Manager under Mr. Williamson, and the whole of the Germans have shewn an inclination to emigrate into Upper Canada. I cannot but say that it would give me pleasure to see Mr. Pulteney's labours fruitless and ruinous, as I consider such an application of the product of a British Capital injurious to Great Britain, and under present Circumstances, disloyal in its effects, tho' private emolument may have been the cause. I have hitherto, My Lord, taken no measures to forward this Emigration.—To prevent it, Mr. Williamson has long been reporting that if they came to Niagara, I had promised to send them back. I enclose for Your Lordship's perusal, a Plan of the Genesees, which I shewed Lord Grenville when in England; possibly Your Lordship may not have it. I have marked Bath and the road as described by Mr. Allen—He does not think the Plan altogether accurate.²

I have the honor to remain, &c.,

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

¹ William Berczy, who, later in the same year (1794), brought over to York County, U. C., 64 German families from the Pulteney Settlement. He died in New York in 1813, aged 68.

² Extract from the Diary of David Zeisberger.

Monday, March 3, 1793. From Zonesschio, (Genesee) came here Nathan Allen, with a doctor besides, on their journey to Detroit, the former, with a message from Congress to the Nations, which he had to deliver to McKee, at the same time also to examine the country. He said he had a mind to settle on the river, for he was entitled to have two thousand acres of land. He had all sorts of projects, wanted to put his children to school to us, to settle them on our land, and to be helpful to us in all kinds of ways, for instance to build school-houses and meeting-houses, mills, for which we gave him no hope, but told him that in our mission it was a fixed rule to admit no white people. He told us he had been in Bethlehem last year with the Mingoes, who went to Philadelphia, and he praised their good reception and treatment there, also the children's singing. They set out the next day.—Translation by Eugene F. Bliss, II, pp. 345-6.

PETITION FOR 1 MILLION OF ACRES—20TH MARCH 1794. LETTER
TO GOVERNOR SIMCOE & A PROMEMORIA ACCOMPANY-
ING THE LETTER DATED APRIL 1794.

Resolves,

1. That Sam. Forbes be President.
2. That Dedr. Conrad Brauer be Treasurer.
3. That Timothy Green be Secretary.
4. That S. Street, Andr. Pierce & W. B. be our Agents to apply to the Governor & Counsel of Upper Canada for a Grant of 2 Mill. or upwards of Land and if they cannot obtain that quantity or more to apply for such quantity as they think proper upon the best terms for the general good of the Company.
4. That C. L. Brauer & Son of Bremen be our Agents in Germany to do such business as the Company shall direct from time to time.
5. That all orders shall be made out & signed by the President and counter-signed by the Secretary.
6. That seven hundred and fifty five dollars shall be advanced immediately on each share to carry the Business into effect except W.B. share
7. That in case the Agents should obtain said Land, W. B. shall immediately move on said Lands the 60 families on the Conditions stipulated in the Articles of the Compy.
8. That each family shall be furnished with the Articles specified in Paper No. 6. on following Conditions that they give a note on Interest for the personal property to be paid in four Installments and on the payment of the whole shall receive a deed for their 200 Acres of Land gratis and not before.
9. That a Grist and Saw mill together with a Church Parsonage & Doctor's house shall be built as soon as may be at the expence of the Compy the Church not to exceed 500 D. in value over and above the articles specified in No. 2.
10. That the Sallary to the Clergyman shall be 350 D. per Year for the three ensuing years.
11. That the Sallary to the Doctor shall be 150 D. per year for the insuing years & to make no charge against the Original Settlers during the continuance of his Sallary.
12. That the Compy shall find sufficient medicine for the first settlers during the Doctors sallary.
13. That Andrew Pierce be our Agent to provide and bring on to said Lands immediately the Articles in Paper No. 3.
14. That Samuel Street be our Agent to provide & bring on said Lands the Articles specified in paper No. 4.
15. That Sam. Forbes be our Agent to provide & bring on to said Lands the Articles specified in paper No. 5.
16. That W. B. be our Agent to bring on to the said Lands the Articles specified in paper No. 6.
17. That each Party or their Proxy in case of the removal of their habitation shall give notice thereof to the President for the time being.
18. That in case 2 Millions of Acres be obtained 200 Lotts of 200 Acres each included the first 60 families be given to actual settlers and in the same proportion for a lesser quantity.
19. That in Case two Mill: of Acres are obtained it is the opinion of the board that 200,000 acres shall be offered for sale by our Agents in Germany at the price not less than 1/6 per Acre & in that Proportion if greater or less quantity is obtained.

20. That so soon as the several accounts are received by the President of Expenditure in establishing the first 60 Settlers, he shall immediately call a meeting of the Compy and vote an assessment to pay the same.

21. Resolved that in all settlements to be made of Lands to be given gratis the Lands shall be surveyed in farms of 200 Acres each and every fourth Lott be reserved as much as circumstances will admit for the future disposition of the Company.

22. Resolved that eight farms shall be surveyed of 400 Acres each in the most convenient place at the Discretion of the Agents in Canada to be drawn for by lot by each Proprietor saving however to Mr. Berczy his Choice before such Drawing for Convenience of farthering the Settlement.

OBSERVATIONS ON NIAGARA.

YORK, March 24th, 1794.

In adverting particularly to the defence of Niagara by increasing its strength, I beg leave to observe to Your Lordship that it appeared to me that a very considerable degree of damage occurred to that Fort towards the Lake, and all the surface water running off that way instead of into the River, and contributing by slow but constant wearing off of the top soil to the ravages attributed to the Lake.

I recommended an attention in this particular both to the Engineer and Major Smith.

In case of the Post being threatened with attack, I should have directed two fleches to have been constructed—one on each flank of the front towards the land, and close to the banks of the Lake and River, respectively, the one near the burying-ground and the other by the side of the Lake nearly parallel to it.

I meant that these works should have a perfectly impassable abbatiss in their front, covered from cannon-shot by a Glacis, and that they should be enclosed to the rear by pickets, barely musket-proof, and exposed to be instantly demolished by the guns of the Garrison, without the Enemy should they possess them, being able to include them in their Approaches. I also meant that small mines or Fougasses should be prepared in every part that it was possible they could be of service.

I wished also to form retired breast-works on the flank towards the Lake, and totally to divide the ground which the Merchant Storehouses occupy, by a breast-work formed of logs &c., &c., from the Fort to the Lake.

It was also my intent to form a Battery on the ruins of the old Wharf, to command the Harbour, and at the same time to flank any assault that might be made on the right of the work towards the River. This Battery I had intended the Queen's Rangers should have constructed, but their sickness prevented its possibility. Internally my Ideas were to shut up the land Post-Gate as useless and by Stockades to separate it from the rest of the Work, and occupy it as a Barrack in a similar manner as the Cavalier or square Tower.

In the opposite Bastion, by the Artillery, this too, I meant to be cut off by a similar Stockade. I have also an Idea, in case of Hostilities, of considering the Stone House as a separate Work, as making it bomb-proof, and to contain part of the Garrison. It would support light guns on the upper story, the wooden buildings would necessarily be destroyed. This Arrangement might necessarily be executed with the Assistance of the Country People in a few days. I conceive

it would not be expensive, and put the Fort out of all hazard of an Assault, and in a certain degree of preparation to stand a considerable siege, provided the opposite shore should remain in our possession. I talked much with Captain Glasgow on this Subject, and availed myself of his professional knowledge and experience. The natural weakness of Niagara consists of the Curvature of the Banks on both sides of the River, which affords positions for the artillery to consider well and center all their fire on the Fort, without the necessity of erecting Batteries or protecting Redoubts, offers means to drive all the floating craft out of the Harbour and almost saves the trouble of establishing a first parallel.

The ground, as it approaches the Fort admits upon the banks of the River and Lake of many hollows formed by the rain, for the placing a Mortar Battery. The soil is of a sandy nature, in which the approaches may be rapidly carried on; at the same time this circumstance affords the advantage of facilitating counter-approaches. The system upon the whole, which contemplating the Enemy, the Climate, and the facility or difficulty with which Ammunition may be obtained, I should be inclined to prefer as the best mode of defending Niagara.

J. G. SIMCOE.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAPTAIN JOSEPH BRANT TO JOSEPH CHEW, SECRETARY OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, DATED GRAND RIVER, 25th MARCH, 1794.

“It has been my most Ardent Wish to Promote His Majesty’s Interest in General among the different Tribes of Indians as far as my influence Extended, and as Sir John and you have a Perfect knowledge of my Proceedings heretofore.

I must beg leave to inform you that if the influence of Certain White Men had not been Prevalent in our Councils to the westward our affairs might have Terminated full as well as they are if not better, and I have ever observed that whenever Councils are held the Members of Which Consist of Natives only that they come nearer to the Point, have less trouble in deciding and are better Contented with the Proceedings, than where similar Views may Clash with their Interests and only serve to Create dissension.

It appears to me that it never was the intention that a meeting should take Place between the American Commissioners and us—but what the motive may be for the disappointment time must unfold, and as for my Part I was Clearly Prepared for the Business and from apparent circumstances we had nothing to dread from an interview, as I have the Vanity to think that I should never have Assented to any Proceedings by Which His Majesty’s Interest might have received the least injury, indeed am sorry to inform you my feelings are much hurt when I seriously consider Every thing, as Conjectures might arise that no Confidence was Placed in me, and for that Very reason I would have taken Pleasure to Evince to the Contrary, by that Uniform Conduct Which I Ever Wish to Pursue When anything may be Expected at my hands. When the six nations returned from Miami last season we sent to Congress Proposals of having Muskingum River the Boundary Line, but as we received an Evasive Answer, it is not in my Power to inform you what the intention of Congress is in respecting this Business as they said they must deliberate on the matter, notwithstanding we required but a short answer from them—Yes or No.—We are now going to hold a Council at Buffaloe Creek and as Congress has not sent an Answer to our Proposals, it is my Opinion that the five nations (of which this Council is to Consist) will not attend the Proposed treaty at Venango,

as I cant conceive it will tend to a great purpose, as probably those of the Five Nations now on the Genesee &c. (after the Council) will immediately remove on this side Niagara River, but my next letter will give you further knowledge of this Business.

About three years ago when the Western Country was invaded I went to their assistance, my Party was Necessitated for Mockasons, &c. I had to Purchase a Horse. I paid a Part and still remains fifty Dollars, therefore would Deem it a Singular favour if you would please to mention the matter to Lord Dorchester and procure an order to have the same discharged. I made the Purchase of Mr. Kinzie Silver Smith at the Miami and he will take goods for the Amount, and I shall be very happy if you will attend to the three young men who will deliver this as they receive no Other encouragement than Clothing &c. for such Services and Dare say you will not let them return discontented.

His Excellency Governor Simcoe has just now left my House on His Way to Detroit with Lord Dorchester's Speech to the Seven Nations, and have Every reason to believe when it is delivered that Matters will take an immediate Change to the Westward as it will undoubtedly give those Nations high spirits, and Enable them by a Perfect union to Check General Wayne if he advances any further, which appears to me will be the case as affairs now stand.

If the Caughnawagas was serious in their Expressions at the Council they Certainly ought now to come up, as we had not the least doubt of their Sincerity and hope that they will perfectly fulfill their promises.

MONTREAL, April 21st 1794.

A True Extract of the Letter Received the 19th Instant.

JOSEPH CHEW.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

UPPER CANADA, MOHAWK VILLAGE, GRAND RIVER, March 26th, 1794.

My Lord:

I do myself the pleasure of informing Your Lordship, that I shall proceed immediately from this place to Detroit, the River Thames being now open, as is generally supposed. On my arrival here yesterday, I was glad to find that Capn. Brant was perfectly recovered from his late very dangerous illness. Amongst the customary congratulations on my arrival, the Indians expressed their particular satisfaction on receiving Your Lordship's late Speech to the Seven Nations of Canada, as Deputies from the several Nations. Messages are to be sent off immediately announcing Brant's recovery to the Indians of Buffaloe Creek, O'Beal, and to say that he and the Grand River Indians are ready to meet them, as agreed upon, at Buffaloe Creek.

It seems to be the Opinion here, that the Six Nations will in the greater part (as they had intimated to Genl. Chapin) move over to this ground and refuse any more to attend the Council of the United States.

I do myself the honor of transmitting to Your Lordship, an extract of a communication made to me by the desire of Mr. Chittenden, the Governor of Vermont. Mr. Sherwood,¹ a Magistrate of this Province, was, I apprehend, confidentially

¹Justus Sherwood.

employed by Genl. Haldimand, in the intercourse he held with the Inhabitants of Vermont.

In respect to the Message from Egushwai to Captn. Brant, he does not conceive it to have been expressed in those terms that Mr. Allen informed me he had delivered it; at the same time Brant says that being at that time very ill, he might not pay it the attention requisite.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

GENERAL ANTHONY WAYNE'S SPEECH TO THE SIX NATIONS.

To all the Sachems, Chiefs & Warriors of the Six Nations.

Brothers:

We have all to lament the unfortunate death of Captain Bigtree who put an end to his existence about two months since. I made every enquiry into the cause of his death, and ordered thirteen of my warriors to examine the Body, and give me their opinion in writing under their hands & seal, which I now send to you by our friend Mr. Rosecrantz.

A few days after his arrival three Delawares arrived at this Cantonment with a flag & message from the hostile Indians proposing to me to fix a time & place for holding a treaty in order to agree upon the terms on which peace should be made. I now send you a copy of that message together with my answer which will be delivered to you by Mr. Rosecrantz.

Captain Bigtree was present & heard the message from the hostile Indians to me, and my answer to that message.

I then made this short speech to the Delaware Messengers:

Nephews: I call you, because you have always acknowledged the Six Nations your uncles. I am pleased to find that your pride is lowered & that you begin to come to your reason, you were too proud last summer to listen to the Commissioners of the thirteen fires & your uncles.

I will only just inform you that the voice of the Thirteen fires is the voice of the Six Nations, therefore tell your chiefs & warriors to listen to the voice of their great chiefs. Tell them immediately to comply with his demands & deliver up all Prisoners within the course of thirty days, and not to neglect if they wish to see their children grow up to be men and women.

That same night Captain Bigtree had some angry talk with the Delawares, whether he ate and drank with them afterwards, or whether they gave him something which put him out of his reason afterwards I cannot tell, but certain it is that from that time to the moment of his Death he was melancholy & deranged untill the last moment of his death when stabbing himself with his own knife.

Brothers: I have now told you every thing that has taken place & all that was said to and with the hostile Indians, since which I have not seen or heard any thing further from them, except that they murder our People & steal our Horses whenever they have an opportunity, so that all prospect of peace is now done away. I have therefore every reason to believe that the only object the hostile Indians had in view was to Reconnoitre our Situation & to see our numbers & to gain time to collect their Warriors from their different hunting camps in order to fight us & continue the war.

Brothers: I was informed by Captain Bigtree that many of your people had died last Summer in consequence of something you had eat, when at the Council

with the hostile Indians at the Rapids of the Miami of the Lake & that my friend & Brother, the New Arrow is among the dead; and that my good friend Captain O'Bale was also near dying for which my heart has been sorry. This mode of making war is cowardly & base and Captain Bigtree was determined to have revenge had he lived—this they will know & are glad that he is dead.

Brothers: I have sent cloathing for the wife & daughter of Captain Bigtree by Mr. Rosecrantz and a Suit of mourning to his two brothers & a Rifle to each.

I have also ordered the commanding officer of Fort Franklin to build a house for them & to give them plenty of Provisions & everything they may want & to provide & take care of them.

ANTHONY WAYNE.

Major General & Commander in Chief of the Legion of
the United States.

Greenville, 26th March 1794.

FROM GEORGE WASHINGTON TO GEORGE CLINTON.

(*Private.*)

PHILADELPHIA, 31 March, 1794.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 20th instant, with its enclosures, came duly to hand, for which you have my particular thanks. As there are those, who affect to believe that Great Britain has no hostile intention towards this country, it is not surprising that there should be found among them characters who pronounce the speech of Lord Dorchester to the Indians to be spurious. No doubt, however, remains in my mind, of its authenticity. But, as it is important to be satisfied (so far as the nature of the thing will admit) of the fact, I would thank you for such information as you are enabled to give of this matter.

How far the disappointments, experienced by the combined powers in Europe, may have wrought a change in the political conduct of Great Britain towards this country, I shall not take upon me to decide. That it has worn a very hostile appearance latterly, if it has not been so uniformly, no one, I conceive, will be hardy enough to deny; and that Lord Dorchester has spoken the sentiments of the British cabinet, at the period he was instructed, I am as ready to believe. But, foiled as that ministry has been, whether it may not have changed its tone, as it respects us, is problematical. This, however, ought not to relax such inquiries on our part, as might enable us, if matters should come to extremities, to act promptly and with vigor.

Among these inquiries it appears important to me to know the present state of things in Upper and Lower Canada, that is, the composition of the inhabitants, especially in Upper Canada, how they stand affected to their government, and what part they would be disposed to act, if a rupture between this country and Great Britain should take place; the proximity of our settlements, from the northwestern to the northeastern part of the State of New York, with the Lake Ontario and the River St. Lawrence, the strength thereof, and of their neighbors on the other side of the line, regulars and militia, especially about Niagara and Oswego.

As you have, I am certain, a pretty accurate knowledge of many of these matters yourself, and have the means, from your acquaintance with characters, on whose adroitness and integrity you can rely, bordering on the British settlements, to obtain information from others, you would oblige me very much by such communications as relate to the above, or any other points that you may conceive worthy of attention.

Ford, 12, pp. 409-10.

STATIONS OF THE BRITISH ARMY IN CANADA, 1794.

DISTRIBUTION OF QUARTERS AND CANTONMENTS OF THE TROOPS IN CANADA AND FRONTIERS THEREOF, FOR THE YEAR 1794.

Regiments.	Companies.	
5th Regiment	6 St. Johns. 2 Isle aux Noix. 1 Point au Fer. 1 Chambly Fort.	{ Furnish a Detachment to Dutchman's Point.
7th or Royal Fusiliers.	Montreal	{ Detachment to Lachine and Coteau du Lac.
24th Regiment.	11½ Michillimackinac. 8½ Detroit.	{ Present Quarters.
26th Regiment	1 Fort Ontario. 2 Kingston. 3 St. Denys. 2 St. Antoine. 1 St. Ours. 1 William Henry.	{ Detachment to Oswegatchie & Carleton Island Head Quarters.
60th 1st Battalion.	Quebec.	
60th 2nd ditto.	1 Fort Erie. ½ Chippewa. 8½ Niagara.	{ Detachment to Fort Schlosser.
Royal Artillery.	2. Quebec. 1 William Henry. 1 Upper Posts. ¼	{ Detachment to Upper Posts Officer and 22 Gunners. Chambly & St. Johns. with detachments.
Queen's Rangers.	2 Upper Posts.	

Approved.

DORCHESTER.

By His Excy's Command.

27 March. 1794.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, April 8th, 1794.

Sir:

Major Campbell who will have the honor of delivering you this letter, takes Command of the Detachment ordered by Your Excellency. He is at present I believe uncertain what his stay or the disposition of the Detachment may be. After his return I will visit whatever Post you think proper to establish and endeavour to carry into execution the orders you find necessary to send me.

The two Brass three pounders with thirty rounds of ammunition for each

and three large Batteaux completely equipped are sent. Those with two Colonel McKee already has will I trust be sufficient for any hasty move. Should more be considered necessary, They shall accompany the Gun Boats though they cannot be well spared from this Post. The large Gun Boat is all ready to move, and to morrow the Carpenters will begin to fit out the small one. I find that there is not in the Naval Store here canvass of the quantity proper to make her sails but consider myself authorized to purchase some which I hope you will confirm.

Notwithstanding all the conversation Your Excellency had in my presence with Commodore Grant, he does not consider himself authorized to make any alteration in the armament or establishment of the King's Vessels till he hears further from you. I have, however, ventured to direct that the Ottawa takes for the present Four Pounders with the two six pounders, and have advertised for able bodied seamen or landsmen to serve on board the vessels during the summer without a promise of any bounty, and mean to proceed till the number required for the half armament is completed before which time I hope to be honored with further instructions from Your Excellency. In the present weak state of the Garrison, I will not with prudence be able to spare marines for the vessels navigating the Lakes, though perhaps they may be considered by you as necessary and should be glad to have your orders relative to them. I am very apprehensive notwithstanding the confidence with which Commodore Grant spoke that it will be difficult to get the number of men here, required to place the vessels on the War Establishment.

Should there be any new Lieutenants in this country I think Captain Caldwell¹ would be found useful, both from his knowledge of the country and the kind of service he may be employed on. Colonel McKee with whom I understand he served a good deal during the last War will be able to acquaint you of his merits, &c. Another man by the name of Hazel who was employed during the last war probably may be of use but I know he is not a favorite of Colonel McKee's. He, I understand, served with the Indians. His zeal and fidelity does not however equal poor Caldwell.

This letter will I hope find you perfectly recovered from the fatigues of your expedition from home and previous to your undertaking a second, hope to hear from you and to be honored with commands and orders by Major Campbell.

I have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

R. G. ENGLAND.

A new Schenectady boat goes with the Detachment for the use of the River, who is to continue in the Command of it.

¹William Caldwell, lieut. colonel of the Essex militia; joined Bird's corps under Lord Dunmore, 1775; made his way on foot to Niagara; captain in Butler's Rangers, May, 1776-24 July, 1784; commanded detachments of the Rangers at the German Flats, Warwasing and Sandusky, being severely wounded in the latter action; founded the new settlement on Lake Erie; Deputy Quartermaster General, 1812; commanded Western Rangers, 1813-14; Deputy Superintendent Indian Department, 8 May, 1814.

FROM JOHN McDONALD TO ALEXANDER McKEE.

CHEROKEES, April 10th, 1794.

ALEXANDER McKEE, ESQR.

Sir:

Probably you may recollect in October, '83 I took the liberty (tho unknown) to write you a few lines in favour of one of the Cherokees Nacheeah, but generally known among the whites by the name of the fool warrior. My recommendation met with a favourable reception, and the fellow remembers it with gratitude to this day, I was then just on a start, with a large body of indians, to Augustine to join Col. Brown, the superintendent of Indian Affairs having then acted as a commissary under him in the Indian Department for his Majesty, ever since the conclusion of the war, I have remained in the Indian country as a private person carrying on a small trade to Pensacola.

I now again take the liberty of writing you these lines particularly to recommend to your civility and favour the bearer of this, William Shawrey who is my Brother-in-law, he is accompany'd with his cousin Jno. Taylor and a fellow known by the name of Capt. Dickinson, this last you will no doubt know when you see him, he is a son of the great warrior that got killed among the Shawnies some years since, these are men of note among the red people. Several others goes in company, among the rest, a son of the little Turkey one of our principle Chiefs. As Taylor talks English you will learn from him more particularly the news of this Country. Treaty of friendship and guarantee was concluded between the Spaniard and the four Southern Nations on the 28th October last, at the Walnut Hills, by Govr. Gayoso de Lemos, Govr. of Orleans and the Province of Louisiana. At this Treaty the indians throw'd themselves under the protection of his Catholic Majesty as the last and only resource to enable them to keep possession of the remainder of their Country. This measure, no doubt, will be attended with happy consequence to the indians, I mean if they adhere to do the advice of their friends, and suffer them to conduct a business, they are not able to conduct themselves. But the seeds of discord the American emissarys daily sows among the different tribes, and the backwardness of the Spaniards in furnishing them liberally, and the dearness of goods from that quarter, all tend to render the union less firm than it would be if they met with a liberal supply of presents and a cheap trade. I cannot help joining in the general cry, of the Southern Indians in wishing the return of the British once more to the Floridas. You no doubt have long since heard the cause which originated the war between the Cherokees and the frontier of the United States, when the Govr. of Orleans became acquainted with the circumstances he advised the Nation to represent their complaint in a formal manner, which they did by a memorial and which, he says, he has laid before his King, and enform. We have been graciously received and that his C. Majesty determined to take proper measure upon the subject. The Baron further adds that he has wrote the Minister of Spain, in America to propose to Congress a suspension of Arms with the Cherokees from the first of this instant April, which he wishes the Cherokees to exceed to it and wait with patience the result of the negociation now carrying on at Madrid. I am offered by the Spaniards the appointment of a commissary of the Cherokee Nation, but have not as yet excepted the offer.

Mr. Welbank is still here, and seems not to wish to venture through the Creeks, as he finds their temper have altered since he was last among them. When the Creeks heard of Welbanks arrival even they did not look for judged he had as

usual some publick talk to deliver, and as they expected him in their Nation intimidated by a message; "that as he had been a long time running up and down "upon business they knew not, it was now time he should give satisfactory accounts "of himself and produce his authority for his conduct, requesting him to attend "at their general meeting and bring his papers, and if his cause was good, he would "not hesitate a moment about coming;—as Mr. Welbank happened to shew them some letters directed to Lord Dunmore,¹ which he says was from Gov. Simcoe, I thought proper to endeavour to enterecede in his behalf, which I did so effectually as not to admit of any doubt with respect to his personal safety, an accident happened to him the other day of being robbed partly of the whole amount he brought with him, this accident was occasioned by his putting up at an improper house, two or three of our greatest magicians have in vain been employed to find them out. I shall be happy to hear from you when ever opportunity offers. Any friendly advice to these distressed people, from your quarters will at all times meet with confidence.

With sentiments of esteem, I remain

Sir,

Your most Obt. Hml. Servant.

JOHN McDONALD.

Endorsed:—Letter from a Mr. McDonald living in the Cherokee Country, dated 10 April 1794. Recd. at the Rapids 9th Sept.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO THE BARON DE CARONDELET.

AT THE RAPIDS OF THE MIAMIS RIVER OF LAKE ERIE, April 11th, 1794.

Sir:

I do myself the honor of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's dispatch of the second of January.

Your courier reached this place on the Eighth of April precisely at the moment when I arrived here by command of Lord Dorchester to establish a Post on the principles of self defence, for the protection of His Majesty's Rights and of his Subjects, in case the Army of the United States now under the command of General Wayne should as it menaces, invade the British possessions.

The advanced post of this Army is only at the distance of ninety miles. [In this situation, Sir, Your Excellency will see that it is impossible for me to afford the assistance to your post at St. Louis that you require, was I authorised so to do. I shall immediately transmit your letter to Lord Dorchester the Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Forces, who is now at Quebec. No one, Sir, can more readily concur in your observations that it is the British Interest that Louisiana should remain in the hands of the Spanish nation than myself—and I should be happy that the present alliance between the two Crowns was materially strengthened, as I not only entertain the highest personal respect for the Spanish nation, but in particular as I think I can discern some Points in which the co-operation of the Forces of the two Crowns in this Country would be of decisive consequence, should they be compelled into a War by the United States in consequence of the Maritime principles they have mutually adopted in respect to France and which

¹Governor of the Bahama Islands.

from a late Speech of Lord Dorchester's in answer to the Indian nations I think very probable.

The Indian nations seem to be determined to resist the encroachments of the United States who contrary to the Ancient principles of British policy which sought only to establish Maritime Colonies, claim their whole Country from the Allegany Mountains to the Mississippi for the purpose of Colonization.

I have much to lament the unfortunate situation of Mr. Bowles, whose influence with the Creek and Cherokee Nations was directed to the establishment of a Boundary between those nations of Indians and the people of Georgia and Carolina; and who was by no means hostile either to the interests of Spain or of Great Britain.

I transmit to your Excellency a Gazette of the United States, which I had purposely preserved to send to Monsieur Trudeau and which elucidates the designs of this persevering rapacious and ambitious People.

I feel myself much indebted to your Excellency for the civility which you have done me the honor of offering to such of the Young Gentlemen of my family who should visit the Spanish Posts. In case Great Britain had remained in Peace I should certainly have availed myself of your goodness as some of them are very anxious to acquire the language of a noble gallant nation which Great Britain has of late respected as an honorable Enemy, but I most fervently hope will in future (as nature seems to point out) consider as the most cordial of Friends.

I have the honor to be &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Lieut.-Govr. of the Province of Upper Canada.

His Excellency Baron de Carondelet, Governor General of the Louisiannas, &c., &c., &c.

Endorsed:—In Lord Dorchester's No 31 to Mr. Dundas, of the 7th of June, 1794.

FROM C. T. A. SCHOEDDE TO E. B. LITTLEHALES.

FORT ONTARIO, 13th April, 1794.

Sir:

Your favor of 23rd February last with its five enclosures as likewise General Orders from 28th October, 1793, to 27th February, 1794, came to hand yesterday.

I had the honor likewise to receive a letter from His Excellency Governor Simcoe, the answer to which, as likewise to yours, must be deferred for a couple of days, not wishing to detain Lieutenant Fortier¹ with the Catherine Schooner, which immediately on the ice breaking up was put in order for sailing by the two men I detained in the fall. I have directed him to proceed to morrow morning, if the weather permits, with all convenient speed for Kingston. Monthly returns to 24th March accompany this. In future, agreeable to orders, they will be dated on the 1st of the month.

On board the Catherine there were 8 swivels which I mounted on the works to defend the gorge of the East Bastion, and as I am afraid of a visit from the Banditti in my neighborhood I have detained 7 of them till further orders. The 8th is sent on board for a signal gun.

When Lieutenant Fortier arrived last fall I received accounts from Captain

¹Probably Charles Fortier, of the Provincial Marine.

Porter that by the latest arrivals from Europe a war with America was more than probable. I took such precautions as my situation would permit.

In December some Caughnawago Indians came to the Fort from the Sodus and acquainted me that two Onondago Indians had just arrived, who informed them that there were between 300 and 400 men assembled at the Salt Springs,¹ distant about 36 miles, and intended to proceed to this Fort and to take it by force if refused to be given up.

Alarmed at this intelligence I procured a young Indian for some provisions and three dollars in cash to go to Onondago. He returned in four days and informed me that there were no people there except 50 or 60 men employed in the Salt Works; that the others had returned to their homes, having only appeared there on a General Muster of the Militia, the Commander of which, a Major Danford, asked those Onondagoes whether they did not think there were men sufficient to take the Fort. From thence arose this report. If His Excellency thinks my conduct justifiable in sending this Indian express I hope he will order me to be repaid.

Three chests with arms arrived in sleighs during the winter at the Salt Works, and a few field pieces said to be intended for them proceeded not further than Fort Stanwix, from whence they are to be conveyed by water.

Permit me to reiterate my application for permission to send a party to Montreal for stores under the command of an Officer, as contained in my letter of 3rd December last.

Enclosed is a copy of an application of Lieutenant Muller promoted to another Battalion. If His Excellency will permit his departure, being anxious to join as early as possible, I doubt not but another Officer will be immediately sent up in his room.

A Report of Survey on some peas accompanies this.

I have the honor to be &c.

C. T. A. SCHOEDDE,
Capt. 60th Comm'g.

Major of Brigade E. B. Littlehales.

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO J. G. SIMCOE.

QUEBEC, 14th April, 1794.

Sir:

The appearance of Hostilities with our Neighbours, which the Intrigues and Influence of France seem to render inevitable, will necessarily draw your attention to the Upper part of the River St. Lawrence by which Passage the main Body of our Troops invaded the Province and completed its conquest in the year Sixty. At present if I mistake not, the Settlement upon, and near its Banks on the west side form the most important part of the Province, and it is the great channel of communication from hence to the Upper Posts & Lakes, it being necessary that the Military Stores & Provisions should be carried at least to the head of the Rapids in Boats or Canoes, and deposited till the Shipping can take them on board. It has been found by experience that the most eligible Station for this Deposit is near the head of the River, on account of many commercial reasons and conveniences which operate equally on the Trade and Military Transport.

¹ Now Syracuse, N.Y.

A state of War will greatly endanger this Frontier and Communication, and lay them open to hostile Expeditions both in Summer and in Winter. The Deposit of Stores and Provisions, with the Harbour for Boats and Shipping would doubtless be an object for capture or destruction.

To prevent this ruinous Event, and to preserve the communication as well as our condition will allow, a station should be chosen where the Craft of all kinds and the Stores might receive some Protection: this must be within the River, as near Lake Ontario as circumstances will permit.

There are objections to Carleton Island; and the Reasons you give for rejecting Kingston as a military Post appear to me sufficiently decisive, notwithstanding the many advantages of other kinds which it possesses; but the nearer to this Place a proper Post can be found the better.

Toronto is too far out of the way to answer our present purposes. I should imagine from the Works carried on under General Haldimand's Command, at Point Frederic, that he had it in contemplation to remove the Military Post to Haldimand Cove. Capt. Mann's project is laid down agreeably to this idea, on a supposition that the circumjacent Country will afford protection to the Deposit of Stores and Shipping when the different Points are fortified.

I inclose a copy of this Sketch wherein you will perceive some marks for military Works and Batteries as well as for other purposes.

The Buildings which in a course of time it has been found necessary to erect for the marine or other Stores have been built on a Scite conformable to this Plan.

It is of consequence to have the ground more thoroughly examined than Capt. Mann's occupations would allow, and I should wish you to employ a proper Person to make a Survey of this and the opposite point with the adjacent Country and Coves, taking in whatever may lye near enough to affect the Security or convenience of the Port; at the same time I beg to have your observations on the Subject.

As this is the most populous part of the Province I should hope the Station would receive considerable Assistance and strength from a well regulated Militia; in return those valuable subjects would obtain protection for their possessions and Commerce. But whether it be here or at Gananoqui it is full time some Port was found capable of affording this necessary protection, and as near the head of the River as circumstances will permit.

After the River St. Lawrence, the Districts of Detroit and of Niagara are the most essential for the Protection of the King's Subjects their Possessions and Commerce. The defence of the former seems to depend on that of the River Miamis; and the Fort of Niagara should be put in a State of repair to resist an immediate attack.

I flatter myself the Militia every where will unite in their own defence. Unfortunately we have not at present as many Troops as I could wish; but joined with the Militia they may form a respectable Corps; separated from them our weakness will be greatly encreased; no more can be spared for Oswego, or Michilimakinac; and whatever merits Toronto may have in provincial Speculation I cannot approve of its being a deposit for Stores, or a Station for Troops; these are divided too much without that Measure; besides it would take them too far from the inhabited Country which requires all the Force we can collect for its protection.

You desire to know how you are to carry on Provincial Establishments by Military Force, and how far arrangements connected therewith are to be considered as Provincial? The prospect of a War will probably suspend those Projects, yet I must observe that so far as a Military Force is concerned, you may carry them on, according to the Practice of Military affairs; that is, with the approbation of the

officer in the Chief Command, and under his special Orders. In administering the Government, it will be as regular if in the first instance you submit those projects to the King's Ministers, stating at large their object and extent, with the full amount of all necessary expence: and this I think is the more advisable as the General, even should he approve, must send the Estimate home, not having it in his power to contribute to those Expences in any mode, as you may perceive by the Inclosure. When they shall have received the King's approbation, his pleasure will be signified through the regular channel and agreeably to the subordination he has established among his Servants: no difficulty will then remain.

I am with Regard

Sir

Your most obedient humble Servant

DORCHESTER.

Col. Simcoe.

Endorsed:—A In Lord Dorchester's No 24 to Mr. Dundas (Dup) of the 26 April 1794.

FROM C. T. A. SCHOEDDE TO J. G. SIMCOE.

FORT ONTARIO, 15th April, 1794.

Sir:

From a late paper I saw of the 3rd April at Albany, there seems reason to fear a sudden rupture with America will take place. 15,000 men are voted to be raised and the whole sea coast to be put in a state of defence.

It contained also accounts of the evacuation of Toulon on the 22nd December; likewise a defeat of the Allies at Hagenau on the 24th December, and the Speech of Lord Dorchester to the Indians.

I would have taken copies thereof but the man was in a hurry and would not part with the papers.

I have the honor to be, &c.

C. T. A. SCHOEDDE.

Capt. 60th Commanding.

His Excellency Colonel Simcoe.

FROM C. T. A. SCHOEDDE TO FRANCIS LE MAISTRE.

FORT ONTARIO, 15th April, 1794.

Sir:

By His Excellency Colonel Simcoe's orders, I have the honor of transmitting to you for the information of the Commander in Chief, a statement of the actual settlers who have located themselves in the vicinity of my Post within the last two years.

The first settler is 10 miles distant, by name Bush. He suffered a long imprisonment for his loyalty during the late War, but I believe his sentiments are changed. His son is settled immediately above him.

The others, none distant above 12 miles, are as follows.

Haskill, an infamous character, has tried to persuade my men to desert and harbored those who did.

Fuller, the same.

McMasters, Pilot to all the smugglers, a violent man.

Penailer, a Cooper, employed to make barrels for the Onondago Salt Works.

Two more, names unknown, employed in smuggling.

There are no settlers, except one at 3 River Point, distant 24 miles, until the beginning of the Onondago Salt Works.

The number of settlers I have not been able to learn, but altogether including the workmen they amount to about 200, the vilest banditti of America. A great many families are expected to arrive this Spring, and some have marked lots for settlement within 3 miles of the Fort.

One Smith from New Geneva, intends building a store at the Rapids, but being within cannon shot of the Garrison I will not permit it till further orders.

Colonel Simcoe having further directed me to make such remarks as circumstances may suggest on the consequences which may affect my Post, or his Majesty's general Interests, I beg leave to state the different routes the Americans have to communicate with the back country of Canadesego Lake, where the settlement of New Geneva is, and of the Genesee Country. All boats from Fort Stanwix must come down as far as 3 River Point, then proceeding up the western branch of the Onondago River for 80 miles. There is a Carrying Place of 10 miles to the Big Sodus, which is an excellent harbor fit for building of vessels, and there is commonly 11 feet water on the bar. This Carrying Place, I understand, is to be properly established. 22 miles further up the most westerly branch of the river, there is another carrying place of 17 miles where waggons are always to be had to carry the goods across into Rondigut (Irondequoit), from whence they are but four miles to the Genesee. It is to be remarked, however, that this route can only be used in the Spring when the waters are high.

The route most commonly made use of after coming down to 3 River Point is to proceed until the entrance into Cayuga Lake, (distance 90 miles) then taking Canadesego river for twenty miles, leads into that lake where New Geneva is, from thence there is a good waggon road to the Genesee Country, distant 60 miles.

There is likewise a good road from White's Town on the Mohawk river to Geneva 120 miles long, but all land carriage.

On viewing the difficulties of those communications it is not to be wondered at if the Americans are anxious for the possession of this Post. The Salt Works at Onondago begin also to be an object of commercial attention as there are now many thousand bushels made there in a year, and with this place in their hands they would soon supply the whole country. Dry goods and liquors of all sorts would likewise find an easy access to every part of Lake Ontario, and the safety even of Kingston and Dependencies in their present state would become problematical.

It is not necessary to make any remarks on the bad state of this Fort, a report of which I had the honor of making some time ago, but I will beg leave to observe that if the Americans are permitted to settle nearer, the danger of the Post must naturally increase, and desertions and insults will accumulate. Their smuggling boats may lay within sight, without being permitted to touch them, should their settlements once be acknowledged.

The Albany and Schenectady people, whose very existence depends on the commerce they carry on with the back country, will naturally exert every measure calculated to distress this Post.

I have the honor to be, &c.

C. T. A. SCHOEDDE.

Captain 60th, Commanding.

Captain Le Maistre, M.S.

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO J. G. SIMCOE.

QUEBEC, 16 April, 1794.

Sir:

You will receive herewith Statements showing the Guns & Stores for the armed Boats & Vessels on the Upper Lakes, distinguishing the Peace from the War establishment. You will also receive a list of Officers whose Services have secured them half-pay when their State of health shall oblige them to retire.

You will be pleased to form a scheme for filling up the Vacancies which officers so retiring or other circumstances may occasion as you shall judge best for the King's Service; attending to the respective merits and seniority of the Candidates; these Lists you will send to Head Quarters for approbation, and that proper Commissions may be made out, in the meantime you will station those Officers in their Posts and Command, according to your recommendation in the Lists so prepared.

All the Armaments which originated here were named Provincial to distinguish them from those sent from Europe, but whether properly or improperly called, the Vessels in question were built and commissioned by the Commander in Chief, as such, to assist the Troops and cooperate in carrying on the War, and have continued in the Military Line ever since.

I am glad to hear the Onondago has been got off. Young Bouchette's exertions you will have an opportunity to reward: I entirely agree with you that the Sons of Gentlemen of the Country, more particularly of Half pay Officers, should be encouraged.

The Establishment of Midshipmen shall be considered, but before the alteration can be adopted it will be necessary to have a Statement of the additional expence it would occasion. Besides I am not without hope that a considerable Reinforcement may be sent out this spring both for the Land and Sea Service. But whatever succors are sent us, Upper Canada should fit out Man and arm Gun Boats particularly for the Bay of Quinté, and of the Rivers St. Lawrence, Niagara and Detroit.

You cannot too much impress on the Minds of the people the importance of preserving a Command of the Waters and of keeping open an undisturbed communication with this Country.

With the concurrence of the Council and Assembly a System of defence by Gun Boats, to cooperate with your Militia, might be formed which would afford Security to your Settlements against predatory Parties, and greatly protect the communication. This will be the commencement of your Provincial Marine which time and experience will improve, and strengthen according to your progress in population and wealth.

I shall order two Gun Boats to be built to replace those converted into Vessels for transport: I am in hopes Capt Glasgow will be able to give us sufficient information concerning the Spanish Gun Boat used at Gibraltar to form the directions according to your recommendation. In all events you will cause such alterations to be made in the Plan as you may judge best adapted to the Service.

We are building two for this Province, after the form of those we used near New York, and in the Chesapeak last War; I am told they were light and swift, if these succeed I shall have an exact description sent you.

I am with Regard, Sir

Your most obedient humble Servant

DORCHESTER

D

Colonel Simcoe.

Endorsed: B In Lord Dorchester's No 24 to Mr Dundas of the 26 April 1794.

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO J. G. SIMCOE.

QUEBEC, April 16th, 1794.

Sir:

It seems a matter of course that whoever commands the Troops must have the direction of the Provisions provided for their Support. General regulations have been issued accordingly, which I believe are at every Post; at least such parts of them as concern the Officers who command these.

Cases of compassion have arisen and may arise, which cannot be regulated but by the circumstances of the case, and the dictates of humanity, in consequence, the Commandants have issued Provisions, sometimes with, and sometimes without payment, as the Case required. This power of extending the King's Bounty must exist in whoever commands in Upper Canada, as must the power of carrying into execution what the pressure of the moment requires and what cannot be delayed without detriment to the King's Service.

As the Agriculture of the Province has increased, the calls for the King's Benevolence have diminished, and it is with pleasure I learn that the Country this year is able to furnish all the flour necessary for the Troops, besides a large quantity of Pork. I have already said so much as to Toronto or York that I now have only to add, that while Troops remain, they must be supplied with Provisions there, as well as anywhere else.

I am with regard, Sir, &c.

DORCHESTER.

Col Simcoe.

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO J. G. SIMCOE.

QUEBEC, 16th April, 1794.

Sir:

The frequent frauds and embezzlements of the King's Stores belonging to the Indian Department at Michilimackinac, (notwithstanding the vigilance of the Commandant), have induced me to consign the supplies of this year to Col. McKee, and I have appointed him superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Districts of Michilimackinac and Detroit, that he may the better check all abuses, and introduce due order into the Department.

I have had repeated complaints made to me of the destruction of timber in the neighborhood of Oswegatchie; such proceedings are very wrong, whoever that Territory does or may belong to.

I desired Colonel Campbell¹ to take measures for the apprehension of this waste, but I do not find that his interference has produced any effect; I am told matters are artfully managed under the appearance of Indian Authority and Indian Interest, so that it is apprehended the remedy may expose to greater evils.

It is much to be wished that you would put a stop to this mischief, which perhaps you may be better able to do, as our Indian department here is very much deranged. I have to return you thanks for the Plan of a Blockhouse, which I think might be of use in many Situations, if not found too expensive for the Object; also for the Acts of your Legislature; those passed here shall be sent to you, and I think it should be a standing order in both Provinces to communicate to each other their respective Laws.

I am with regard, Sir, &c.

Govr. Simcoe.

DORCHESTER.

¹Colonel John Campbell, Deputy Superintendent of Indian Affairs at Montreal.

FROM GEORGE GLASGOW TO J. G. SIMCOE.

QUEBEC, 16th April, 1794.

Sir:

Lord Dorchester having lately spoken to me on the subject of Spanish Gun Boats I sent His Lordship an outline of the general idea I have of them, from this outline I find estimates have been made and I believe orders have been given for the building of them either at Kingston or Niagara.

The description given Lord Dorchester, being only the idea of what the Spanish Gun Boats were, and not what I would recommend for Lake Ontario, I have taken the liberty of enclosing Your Excellency a draught of a Boat such as I think would answer better for the situation and nearly on the plan of the Boat constructed by Pilkington and myself which I hope has answered the intention.

This Boat is calculated to carry a ship 24 Pr. but as that is not to be had at present in Upper Canada I would recommend a heavy 12 Pr. rather than an 18 for the purpose of firing shells as this boat might lie off at a distance from any position the Enemy might take near the water, and among their Camps or lines of Communications with success. I could wish there were a light 12 Pr. for the other Boat as I am sure she would carry it as well as the 6 Pr. and the advantage of being able to throw shells is a great object. The Brass 12 Pr. belonging to the Gun Boat would I fear be too heavy.

The mode of rigging the Spanish Boats although it succeeded admirably with them I would not recommend for our boats, as very few even of our sailors can manage the Latine sail. In that I have adopted it will be necessary to have the fore stay to unhook; otherwise the sail would interfere with the firing, probably a lug sail forward would render the third sail unnecessary, it would be worth a trial. I am of opinion the ammunition would be best stowed in Midships packed in boxes and covered at all times with hair cloth over the Tarpaulin: for if placed in the bow it would always alter the trim and as it may be necessary to cook in the boat the stern is the only place that could be made use of for that purpose with safety or convenience.

I have also annexed a drawing of a Boat now building here by Lt. Col. Beck- with such as he says General Arnold¹ used in the Chesapeake and what I think would answer very well below Kingston as far as the Rapids or on the Detroit River. At the back of this drawing I have given the Colonel's description but I think she will draw more water than he allows when empty.

I was sorry to hear of the accident which befell the Onondago as I was fearful it would affect the reputation of York Harbour. It did not seem to be unpleasant news here as York Harbour has many enemies in this place. Lord Dorchester seems unwilling to give up Kingston but I do not think it should ever be the Dockyard or general Depot. But Lt. Brice² who will be the bearer of this will be able better than I can to explain his Lordship's views to Your Excellency.

I have the honor to be, &c.

GEORGE GLASGOW
Capt. Royal Artillery.

His Excellency Col. Simcoe, &c., &c.

¹Benedict Arnold.

²Afterwards Sir Alexander Bryce, major general and colonel commandant of the Royal Engineers; 2nd Lt. Royal Artillery, 28 Aug., 1787; exchanged to Royal Engineers, March, 1789; capt., 1794; served in Egypt and Sicily; brig. general, 1814; major general, 1825; Inspector General of Fortifications, 1829.

FROM THOMAS DUGGAN TO JOSEPH CHEW.

DETROIT, 16th April, 1794.

Dr. Sir:

In consequence of the complaints made by the 7 Nations of Canada to Colo. Campbell, Colo. McKee enquired of me what treatment they met with here after they came in from the rapids on their return home, on which having satisfied him, I thought it proper to write you a few lines on the subject, to inform you that the Seven Nations were used better than they deserved, and had provisions as much as they could possibly use themselves, nor can I in any way whatever account for the cause of their complaints unless it was their not having an extra allowance in order to change it for rum and get drunk, it is certain that when they received several days provisions at once they destroyed more in one day than in two when given to them daily, indeed some of the chiefs told me that after the provisions were issued that they were not fairly distributed, and intreated me to let them have theirs apart, shortly before they went which I agreed to. They were thankful to me for my kindness, and were quite satisfied. When the Canada Indians come to this Country it would not be amiss for one of their Interpreters to be with them, which would be a means of preventing any future complaints on their parts, the best Green Tea, Coffee, and Sugar should be provided for them, as they say they are not accustomed to live as our Indians do. I shall only add that their complaints are quite groundless.

The 6th Ultimo¹ Governor Simcoe with his suite set out from hence for the Miamis Rapids as did also Colonel McKee, Capt. Elliott, Lieut. Selby & Mr. McKee² and a few days after the Ottawa, Captain Cowan,³ sailed for the mouth of the Ottawa⁴ River with Three Companies of the 24th and a party of Artillery to join them. I understand Forts are to be built between the Rapids and the Glaize, these preparations have put all the Indians here in great spirits.

I have just received information that the Spaniards have undoubtedly given the hatchet to the Indians, and that another messenger arrived from the Spanish Governor to Governor Simcoe, and met him just as he arrived at the Foot of the Rapids.

This is all the News from

Dr. Sir,

Yours, &c.,

THOMAS DUGGAN.

Joseph Chew, Esqr.

ORDERS BY LIEUT. GOVERNOR SIMCOE.

RAPIDS OF THE MIAMIS, Apl. 16th, 1794.

The Chiefs of the several Nations of Indians, having represented to me the bad effects of spirituous liquors introduced among them at the time when they are assembled in Council, I do hereby direct and order that all Traders and others

¹Should be 6th instant.

²Thomas McKee.

³David Cowan, member of the Legislative Assembly for Essex, 1800-4.

⁴Miamis.

concerned, do desist from selling or bartering rum or other spirituous liquors, until the affairs of the Indian Nations shall appear to admit a relaxation of this order in the opinion of the Commander at Detroit.

J. GRAVES SIMCOE,
Lt. Govr. of U.C. & Col.
commg. the King's Forces.

FROM JAMES RIVINGTON TO J. G. SIMCOE.

NEW YORK, April 17th, 1794.

I have the heartfelt pleasure of announcing to Your Excellency, that two days ago, arrived at Newport in Rhode Island, the Comte de Rochambeau, late Governor of the Island of Martinique and Commander of the Gibraltar of the Carribean Seas, Fort Bourbon, which on the 23rd ult. he surrendered to General Sir Charles Grey at discretion. He was honored with a Sloop of War and a transport for conveying himself and his suite, free from French Cruisers, to this Continent. When M. Rochambault left Martinique, the British Troops were embarked for a descent on Guadaloup.

Yesterday Mr. President Washington appointed Mr. John Jay¹ (Chief Justice of the United States) to be Ambassador or rather Envoy Extraordinary to the British Court, on an occasion of matters of derangements between the two countries, a circumstance supposed tending to measures of conciliation.

We are informed that the Falmouth Mail for February is arrived at Halifax, and consequently the English letters by her, are hourly expected here, via Boston.

I am, Sir,
Your Excellency's Most obedient servant,
JAMES RIVINGTON.

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO J. G. SIMCOE.

QUEBEC, 18th April, 1794.

Sir:

For greater despatch, I send from hence Lieut. Bryce of the Engineers, to see what can soonest be done to put Niagara in a condition to resist an immediate siege. After giving his opinion and assisting to lay out those temporary improvements, you may judge necessary for that purpose, he is ordered to return, and on his way to assist in examining Haldimand Cove, or such other places in the Upper River as may be found to possess the requisite natural advantages for a Military Post.

When he shall have pronounced or procured the knowledge and information necessary, he will bring down his report without further delay, leaving the person appointed by you to finish the survey as directed.

¹John Jay, 1745-1829, born in New York of Huguenot descent, studied law with William Smith; delegate to Congress, 1775-6; Chief Justice of the State of New York, 1777; President of Congress, 1778; Minister to Spain, 1778-9; a Commissioner to negotiate peace, 1781-3; Secretary for Foreign Affairs, 1784-9; special envoy to Great Britain, 1794; Governor of New York, 1798-1801. President Washington sent his name to the Senate as special envoy on April 6, 1794.

The present hostile appearances rendering it necessary that Upper Canada for its own defence should be enabled to bring forth its full strength on any sudden emergency, I beg to be informed of the force, condition and disposition of your Militia, distinguishing those parts of your Province where the population renders them respectable in point of numbers, and the force they may conveniently assemble at different places, and how they are armed and prepared to resist invasion.

More particularly I desire to know what number might be assembled on the side of Niagara, Detroit and Kingston, together with any other circumstances that may tend to show the extent of their powers.

I am, with regard, Sir, &c.,

DORCHESTER.

Col. Simcoe.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

TURTLE ISLAND, April 18th, 1794.

Sir:

I am to direct that you be pleased to order one hundred and twenty rank and file of the 24th Regt., with a proportion of Sergeants, and such Officers as you may think proper, together with one non-commissioned Officer and ten privates of the Royal Artillery, for the protection of the work to be erected at the Miamis River and its dependencies. A Corporal's Guard is to be detached to Roche de Bout, a Post is to be established on Turtle Island and another on the River au Raisin, for the purpose which will be explained to you by Major Campbell, or by the Engineer or Lt. Adye, appointed to act in that Department. I propose that so soon as Fort Miamis is finished, that it shall be immediately furnished with eight pieces of artillery from Detroit, four nine and four six pounders, but in case that the Army of Genl. Wayne should advance so rapidly as to endanger the Artillery falling into his hands, in consequence of the works of the Fort not being completed; in such a situation, I wish that Turtle Island be fortified without loss of time, agreeably to a Plan which Lt. Adye will communicate to you, that you look upon this as the principal Object for the defence of the Lakes, and employ every means in your Power to execute it with the utmost dispatch.

In respect to the Marine on the Lakes, I can by no means at present think it proper that the Vessels should sail without their usual allotment of Soldiers to serve as Marines; consequently I have ordered Major Campbell to send a Non-Commissioned Officer and eight privates on board of the Ottawa, which you will be so good as to replace to Captain Steele's detachment.

The Gun Boats you will be pleased to have armed and ready for service.

A Boat lately in the service of the Indian Department, appearing to me to be more proper, if she be equipped, for the particular service of the Posts on the Miamis, &c., you will be pleased to have the Brass Six Pounder, reported to be without a carriage, fitted so as at an instant to be placed in her; but at present to employ her under Lt. Adye's directions in furthering as he shall think proper, the construction of the Posts.

This Boat, when they shall be established, three batteaux and a lighter boat, which you will be pleased to have contributed for the more especial purpose of speedy communication between the Miamis Fort and its dependencies, or Detroit appears to be necessary for the Service of the Garrison.

You will raise the complement of the Vessels to the War Establishment as speedily as possible, but in the intention, you will be pleased to have their Guns and Carriages with such a proportion of Ammunition as you think proper in the several Vessels; the Guns may be mounted or not, as you shall think proper.

You will be so good as to take measures for the instantaneous apprehension of all deserters from the United States, or all prisoners taken from their Armies, and released by the Indians, or sold by them to White Persons, and send them down to Fort Erie.

Yours, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Lt. Col. England.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

TURTLE ISLAND, April 18, 1794.

Sir:

I enclose a reply I lately made to a speech of the Indian Nations relative to the Inhabitants of the Rivière au Raisin. In your intended visit to that settlement, I am to request that you will have an exact enumeration made of the houses and acres attached to each farm under cultivation and that you strictly forbid any more habitations to be erected, or any more land to be cultivated on any pretext whatever. It may perhaps not be expedient to remove the settlers at present, but they must clearly understand that their remaining there, is totally at their own risk and dependent on many circumstances, in particular to their strict adherence to the limitation of their present actual improvements. I need not mention to you, the encouragement you may hold out to those who shall choose to remove, and I shall be inclined to recommend to the Council, any recommendation you may choose to make for particular persons, receiving as large a portion of land as can reasonably be granted. On the other hand, it may not be amiss to intimate that settlements made in contempt of the King's Proclamation of 1763 are not only liable to involve the persons so offending in personal loss, but by the laws of England, now universally established in Upper Canada and its dependencies, to the severe punishment incurred by a misdemeanor of the highest nature. By what I hear of Mr. Pence, such an intimation may not be improper, however, you will be governed in this by your own discretion and local circumstances, as I mean this inspection of the settlement to see that it be not extended, shall be made from time to time, you will be so good as to communicate to me, your opinion in what manner it may be carried strictly into effect.

I am, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Colonel England.

FROM JOHN WENTWORTH TO J. G. SIMCOE.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, April 21st, 1794.

Sir:

I have had the honor of your Excellency's letter, dated 13th Jany., which had a long passage owing to the mildness of the season which made the ice unsafe for several weeks. It is said the Federal Government intend to re-inforce Gen'l

Wayne, whose exertions must have been great to subsist his army in so remote a country. The force talked of is so great as to give colour to surmise of other objects being in view besides the Indian War. It will be very unfortunate if the Indian Allies are detached from Great Britain. The people of the United States are very sanguine in this expectation. If successful they will derive means of distressing our Frontiers in any future War, an event supposed by many not to be far distant. I am not in that sentiment, notwithstanding the impetuosity of their writings and Speeches. Private aggressions will probably take place but will not be sanctioned by the Government unless the French Democrats should obtain some signal and extensive advantages of which there is no appearance at present. Altho' the Allied Armies and Fleets found it necessary to evacuate Toulon, the French Navy and Arsenals have suffered almost irreparable loss. Had the Spaniards effected their part as well as the English, the whole would have been destroyed. Our latest advices say the combined Armies were impregnably posted for the winter, and to commence this campaign with an incredible augmentation. Our intelligence from Antigua is to 27th March. Martinico subdued, except Fort Bourbon which was closely invested, all supplies cut off. Their spring waters drained. Had proposed to surrender on condition of being restored to the K. of France. When Sir Charles Grey expressed, the surrender at discretion was daily expected. The enclosed little Map may be acceptable to you for the best information of the operations. His R. Highness P. Edward arrived in 17 days from Boston, the day before the batteries were to open on Fort Bourbon. We are told his R.H. departure from Boston was extremely critical. Had it been delayed, it is tho't he might have still been there. The British forces are entirely successful at Hispaniola. A Spanish armament was preparing against Cape Francois.¹ Probably before this can reach you, the French will not have an island in the West Indies. We have not any late arrival from England. The King's Speech came in last night from the West Indies. By the same conveyance it is reported that Admiral McBride had sailed for this Station with ten sail of ships. It is hoped that he may have proceeded to the Chesapeake and may intercept three French line of battle ships and five large frigates and five cruisers with a convoy of 200 sail of merchantmen, bound for Europe richly laden with provisions, naval stores and West and East India produce. This would be a fatal blow to the National Convention. The Daedalus frigate, Sir Chas. Knowles, was blockaded at Norfolk by this great fleet. When relieved he proceeded to this port to convoy the homeward bound trade. In this Province we are fortifying the outposts against predatory incursions to which the militia are competent and active. This Garrison will soon be adequate to its defence if supported by a fleet. The 4th Regiment will be here next month from St. Pierre and Miquelon, which are to be entirely evacuated and left as temporary fishing posts under the Gov. of Newfoundland. I shall be happy if in the preceding I have communicated any entertainment to you, being with perfect esteem and respect.

Yours, &c.

J. WENTWORTH.

His Excellency Lt. Governor Simcoe.

¹On San Domingo.

FROM THE SIX NATIONS TO GEN. KNOX.

Reply of the Six Nations assembled in Council at Buffaloe Creek the 21st April, 1794, to a Speech from General Knox, Secretary of War for the United States, delivered by General Chapin on the 10th of February last, as Interpreted by Jasper Parish, one of the Interpreters for the United States.

21st April, 1794.

Clear Sky, an Onondaga Sachem, spoke as follows.

General Chapin:

We are happy to see that you are arrived safe at our Council fire, and that it has pleased the Great Spirit above to preserve you in good health.

We are also happy in seeing you Colonel Butler, as the Representative of the English.

Captain Brant then arose and spoke.

Brothers:

You of the United States listen to what we are now going to say to you, likewise you the representative of the English.

Brothers: We are happy to see you Colonel Butler and you General Chapin setting side by side, with the intention of hearing what we have to say, we wish that no business should be transacted by us the Six Nations unless it be done openly and above board.

Brother: You of the United States make your mind easy on account of the long time your President's word has been under our Consideration, when we received them we observed to you as it was a business of the utmost importance, of course would require a serious reflection and length of time to be considered of which we have done.

Brother: The answer you brought us from Congress is not agreeable to our expectation, this is the reason we have so long delayed answering it, the business would have been done with expedition, had the United States in any wise approved of our proposals, we should then have been able to have accepted your invitation and would have collected our associates, and repaired to the Venango, the place proposed by Congress for meeting us.

Brother: We are sorry that it is out of our power now to attend, were we even to go, your Commissioners would conduct all business as they should think proper, this has been too much the case at every Treaty held with you.

Brother: At the first meeting you had with us (after the conclusion of the war between you and Great Britain) at Fort Stanwix, your Commissioners settled every thing as they thought would best suit them and be most conducive to their own interest, they pointed out a division line and at once confirmed the same, without waiting to have our opinion of it, and whether it would be approved by us or not, holding out that our Country was ceded to them by the King of England, this language confused the minds of our Chiefs and deterred them from making any reply. They still saying if we did not consent to their proposals that their Warriors were at their back and that they well knew we should receive no protection whatever from the King of England, such has been the Language held out by your Commissioners at every Treaty held with us at Fort McIntosh at Rocky River, and in short at every place we have ever met you to transact business.

Brother: Such has been your proceedings with us from time to time, such the ideas held out to us, owing to which Peace has not been established, but much mischief been done to the southward as you well know.

Brother: Ever since the conclusion of your war with the English, we the Six Nations have exerted ourselves to keep Peace, we look'd upon it that it would be for the interest of you the United States, as well as for ours. The confederate Nations were advised by us to request a conference with you, in order that steps might be taken to bring about a peace, between the States and the Western Brethren. This request was made and congress appointed Muskingum, as the place, which from its central situation we agreed to, we there proposed a Boundary line, but your Governor St. Clair did not think proper to approve of it. The Wyandots, some Delawares and a few others, not authorized by our Confederacy to transact any business, went at this time and confirmed a line as claimed by you, although no part of those lands was their property, nor the property of any individuals but common to all Indian Nations.

Brother: This was fully explained at our council held at Lower Sanduskie, (long previous to the last recited transaction) for the purposes of forming our confederacy and adopting such rules as would be beneficial to all Indian Nations, our attendance to the Westward therefore has been frequent, to arrange matters for the mutual welfare of all the Nations of our own Colour umbrage has been taken at this (attendance) by the United States who supposed we went thither to take an active part in the war, with our Brethren against them but this has never been the case.

Brother: You must be fully convinced from our steady perseverance, that we were truly desirous of a Peace being established, this your Commissioners must have seen during the last Summer, the exertions we the Six Nations have made towards accomplishing this desirable object, has made the Western nations rather dubious, as to our sincerity, after we even knew their Sentiments on this head we were still not discouraged but proceeded as we before had done, in what to us appeared reasonable and right, last fall we pointed out steps to be taken by Congress and sent them forward by you, which we expected would have proven satisfactory, but to our great disappointment did not, had our advice taken place we should then have more than ever exerted ourselves, in order that our offers should be confirmed by our confederacy, and strictly adhered to, from our offers being rejected we are again placed in a similar situation to what we were when we first entered on the business.

Brother: You must recollect the number of Chiefs who have waited on Congress at divers times, they have pointed out means to be taken, and held out the same Language uniformly at one time as another which was, that you should in part withdraw your Boundary line and claims to our Land, had you done this Peace would have taken place.

Brother: We have bore every thing patiently for a long time past, we have done every thing we consistently could, with the welfare of our Nations in General notwithstanding the many advantages that has been taken of us by individuals making purchases of our Lands, whose fraudulent conduct towards us, Congress has never thought proper to enquire into, that we might be rectified and our minds made easy, our patience is now worn out, you see the difficulty we labour under and that it is impossible for us to rise from our seats, to attend your Council agreeable to the invitation we have received, the boundary line pointed out we think is a just one, and with which you might be well satisfied, without claiming any of our Lands west of that line. The Trifle that has been paid by Congress, can be no object in comparison to what Peace would be.

Brother: We are of the same opinion with the People of the United States, you call yourselves free and independant, we as the Ancient inhabitants of this

Country and sovereigns of the soil, say that we are equally as free as you, or any other nation, or nations under the sun, this Country was gave to us by the Great Spirit above, we wish to enjoy in peace and that we may have an open passage along the Lake within the line we pointed out.

Brother: The great exertions we have made for this number of years in endeavouring to accomplish Peace between you and our Western Nations which we have unfortunately not been able to bring about, our patience is now exhausted and we are discouraged from persevering any longer. Therefore throw ourselves under the protection of the Great Spirit above who we hope will order all things for the best. We tell you our patience is exhausted still we wish for Peace, and whenever persons duly authorized, come here with full powers to proclaim the pleasing sound we shall be ready to pay attention.

(Here a large Belt was returned which accompanied the message from General Knox.)

Endorsed:—Reply of the Six Nations to a speech from General Knox, 21st. April 1794.

FROM THOMAS JEFFERSON TO JAMES MONROE.

MONTICELLO, Apr. 24. 94.

The spirit of war has grown much stronger in this part of the country, as I can judge of myself, and in other parts along the mountains from N.E. to S.W. as I have had opportunities of learning by enquiry. Some few very quiet people, not suffering themselves to be inflamed by the kicks & cuffs Gt. Britain has been giving us, express a wish to remain at peace. But the mass of thinking men seem to be of opinion that we have borne as much as to invite eternal insults in future should not a very spirited conduct be now assumed. For myself, I wish for peace, if it can be preserved, *salve fide et honore*. I learn by your letters and Mr. Madison's that a special mission to England is meditated and H. [amilton] the missionary. A more degrading measure could not have been proposed; and why is Pinckney to be recalled? For it is impossible he should remain there after such a testimony that he is not confided in. I suppose they think him not thorough fraud enough: I suspect too the mission, besides the object of placing the aristocracy of this country under the patronage of that Government, has in view that of withdrawing H. from the disgrace & the public execrations which sooner or later must fall on the man who partly by erecting fictitious debt, partly by volunteering in the payment of the debts of others, who could have paid them so much more conveniently themselves, has alienated for ever all our ordinary & easy resources, & will oblige us hereafter to extraordinary ones for every little contingency out of the common line: and who has lately brought the P. [resident] forward with manifestations that the business of the treasury had got beyond the limits of his comprehension:—Let us turn to more pleasing themes.

(The Writings of Thomas Jefferson, Edited by P. L. Ford, Vol. VI. pp. 503-4.)

FROM JOSEPH BRANT TO JOSEPH CHEW.

NIAGARA, 24 Apr. 1794.

Dear Sir:

I wrote you some days ago that we were going to Buffalo Creek to answer a Speech from Genl. Knox inviting us to attend a treaty at Venango—my letter was in my Opinion not Sufficiently Explanatory—I therefore enclose you the Copy of what we gave in Answer to that Speech—and am happy to say that there never was greater Unanimity prevailed amongst the Six Nations than appeared at this Council being to a man determined in One Opinion—this is some what Pleasing to me to relate, and I dare say not less to you to hear—it is intended that those who live toward the frontiers Shall be Called in from their Present different Habitations in order that we may be more Compact and Connected, this we mean to do as Privately as Possible to Prevent the Americans suspecting our designs untill such time as the Business be Effectuated.

I wrote you that I was indebted to Mr. Kinsey at Roche de Bout for Mockasons, &c. I shall be Glad to hear whether what I requested can be Granted.

We have no intelligence from the Westward as no Vessells have arrived from Detroit. I cannot Conclude my letter without remarking on What I always held out that it would be more for the Interest of the Indians to remove to this side the Water than to remain where they are, this we will soon see as I have no doubt if there should be any disturbance a great many will.

I am &c.

Joseph Chew, Esqr.

JOSEPH BRANT.

FROM WILLIAM MACKAY TO GEORGE BECKWITH.

KINGSTON, 25th Apr., 1794.

Sir:

Enclosed I have the Honor to transmitt the returns of Ships, clearances &c. of the vessels navigating Lake Ontario for the year 1793. At the same time I would wish through you to submit to His Excellency the Commander in Chief a report relative to a new vessel called the *Simcoe* registered at this Place the 28th of March last, The Property of the Firms Todd, Magill—Richardson & Forsyth Montreal, Hamilton & Cartwright Joseph Forsyth & Co. Kingston. She measures one hundred and Thirty Seven Tons, which Measurement is Forty Seven Tons more than is allowed to Private Vessels Navigating on this Lake. "As regulated by an ordinance of the Province bearing date the 19 July, 1788"—As the Preventing the New vessel from navigating till such Matter Might be regulated by a Superior Order—Might prove detrimental not only to the Commercial Interest of Private Individuals as well as to the Owners, I did not take upon myself any Such Step but nevertheless as compatable with the duties of my office—I think it necessary to make this report, there is only at Present the vessel on Question, (Private Property sailling), the *Lady Dorchester* Tonage 120 or thereabouts is now in repair & two Small vessels building—the one about fifty Tons and another at Niagara 60 Tons—will probably be ready to navigate in June next.

I have the honor to be, &c.

WILLIAM MACKAY.¹

Lt. Col. Beckwith. Adj. General.

¹ Naval officer for Lake Ontario, formerly a lieutenant in the 2nd Battalion King's Royal Regiment of New York; died, 1801.

FROM JOHN BUTLER TO JOSEPH CHEW.

NIAGARA, 27th April, 1794.

Dear Sir:

I have to acquaint that a few days ago we had a full Council at Buffalo Creek when all the principal Chiefs of the Six Nations were there assembled. They addressed themselves to General Chapin the Indian Agent of the United States in answer to a speech delivered to them last Fall by desire of Congress. I then addressed all the Chiefs in the following manner.

Brothers: I have now attended your Council according to your invitation. I am happy and it gives me pleasure to see so full a Meeting and so many of the principal Chiefs together, and I particularly congratulate you on the recovery of our esteemed Captn. Brant and the Corn Planter, especially as I have now a Speech to deliver from your Father Lord Dorchester, which is of the utmost consequence, therefore desire you will pay strict attention to it.

When I delivered the above speech they seemed very much pleased and returned a great many thanks to their Father for his attention to their interests.

I afterwards addressed them as follows:

Brothers: I have only a few more words to say to you. You have heard the great Talk of our going to War with the United States, and by the speech of your Father just now delivered to you, you cannot help seeing that there is a great prospect of it, I have therefore to recommend to you to be all Unanimous as one man and to call in all your people that may be scattered about the Territories of the United States, and be as near one another as possible; then you will be of as much consequence as ever. Above all I have to observe that should any person or persons endeavour by any means whatever to disunite you, that person or persons you must look on as your greatest enemy, as you may be certain, that nothing but sincere attachment to one another, and a steady conduct will enable you to follow the steps of your wise Fore Fathers, in which I hope the Great Spirit will assist you.

With this Belt I surround the six Nations in order that they may be nearer together to consult their own Interests as all other nations do. You know the Americans will never even ask your Opinion, except for their own benefit, on the other hand you know the King your Father is always ready to serve you.

A large Black Belt.

Inclosed herewith you will please receive the answer which the Chiefs returned to Congress. I have heard nothing lately from the westward. His Excellency Col. Simcoe is daily Expected. We shall then hear something of their proceedings in that quarter which I will take the earliest opportunity of communicating to you. I have also invited the Corn Planter (Obail) and several other Chiefs down to this place in Order to Introduce them to the Governor, but as he has not arrived they propose returning to morrow.—

I was very happy to see so many of the Indians together at this meeting, and should their Services be wanted I am convinced, if proper attention is paid to them, they will be as faithful as ever.

I am, Sir, &c.

JOHN BUTLER.

Joseph Chew, Esqr.

DIARY OF JOURNEY TO DETROIT AND RETURN TO FORT ERIE.

1794.

- March 26th. Departed from the Grand River.
 27th. On the march.
 28th. Reached the River La Tranche.
 29th. Descending the River.
 30th. Arrived in the Evening at the Delaware Village, encamped about two miles below it.
 31st. Reached the Moravian Village.
- April 1st. Mr. Dolson's.
 2nd. Arrived at Detroit.
 3, 4 and 5. At Detroit.
 6th. Set off for the Miamis River, stopped at Captain Elliot's.
 7th. To the River Raisin.
 8th. Arrived at the Foot of the Rapids.
 9 to 15. At Colonel McKee's.
 16. At the mouth of the Miamis River.
 17. Turtle Island.
 18th. On board the *Ottawa*, encamped in the Evening on the West Sister.
 19th. The Bass Islands.
 20, 21 and 22. Encamped on the North Bass Islands.
 23. Altered our position and encamped on the South Islands near Hope's Cove.¹
 24. In the afternoon went on board.
 25 and 26. On Board.
 27th. Arrived at Fort Erie in the morning and reached Niagara.

REPLY TO AN ADDRESS FROM THE INHABITANTS ON THE THAMES.

Gentlemen:

I beg leave to offer you my thanks for the very obliging address with which you have favored me.

Your expressions of personal confidence in me cannot fail to be highly gratifying. I shall do my best to render your respective situations as comfortable as possible, and I doubt not but the same Loyalty which you have heretofore so conspicuously shewn, will always render you faithful and peaceable subjects to your most beneficent Sovereign.

Endorsed:—Answer to the address of the Inhabitants of the River La Tranche.

EXTRACTS FROM THE DIARY OF DAVID ZEISBERGER.

Monday, March 31, 1794. Towards evening his excellency Gov. Simcoe arrived with a suite of officers and soldiers, and with eight Mohawks, from Niagara by water, and remained over night. He at once asked for our school-house as a lodging, for it was cold and during the day had snowed, but he was much pleased

¹"Hope's Cove, one of the principal harbours in the Bass Islands, Lake Erie, close to St. George's Island." Smith, Gazetteer.

when Br. Sensemann offered his house, where he then lodged together with his officers, two of whom had been here with him last year. Our sisters entertained them. The soldiers lay close by in the school-house, but the Mohawks were divided between two Indian houses, whom also our Indian brethren abundantly supplied with food. He was glad to see so many houses built since he was here, also that our Indians had cleared much land, and he praised their industry and labor. Still more, he wondered at seeing in the place such a great pile of lumber, and when he learned that it was destined for a meeting-house, and also that the Indian brothers and sisters had brought it on sledges without horses, he said: "Would that I could have seen this."

Tuesday, April 1. After friendly leave-taking he set out for Detroit with four canoes.

(*Translation by Eugene F. Bliss, II. pp. 349-50.*)

FROM GEORGE HAMMOND TO JAMES BLAND BURGES.

PHILADELPHIA, April 28th, 1794.

My dear Sir:

From my dispatch of this date you will perceive that the ferment in this country has not diminished since my last, and I must confess that if it continue to increase, I cannot be responsible for the preservation of peace with Great Britain for *any* definite period. I have, in regard to this dispatch as to every other during my residence here, deemed it a proper act of deference on my part to confine myself to *facts*, and to leave the *reasoning* upon them to my official superiors. To you, however, as a personal friend, I can express my conviction that whatever may be the result to which Mr. Jay's mission may lead, the conduct of His Majesty's Ministers may be satisfactorily explained not only to Great Britain but to Europe in general. The *grievances* which the commerce of this country has really sustained has been most preposterously magnified, and the *rights*, which she claims as a neutral power are extravagant indeed, when contrasted with the concessions of other Powers, neutral in former wars, and consequently ridiculous when asserted by a nation that has not the means of enforcing them.

I am ever &c.

GEO. HAMMOND.

(*Letters and Correspondence of Sir James Bland Burges, Bart., p. 217.*)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, UPPER CANADA, April 29th, 1794.

My Lord:

I do myself the honor of informing Your Lordship, that on the 10th of April, I established a detachment of His Majesty's Troops on the Miamis River, agreeable to Your Lordship's directions, and in the position which will be explained to you by the enclosed sketch of Lieut. Pilkington's, the Engineer.

Upon mature consideration of all existing circumstances, I have thought it proper to make the arrangement in the manner which is detailed in the enclosed instructions to Colonel England. Lieut. Pilkington accompanied me to this place

on the 27th inst. The difficulty of obtaining workmen and there being few or no intrenching tools at Detroit, has occasioned his return that he may expedite the business, and take back with him all the Artificers of the 5th Regiment, such soldiers of the Queen's Rangers as he thinks proper, and all the Civil Artificers he can procure.

The principle which I have adopted as the best means of preventing Mr. Wayne from forcing the passage of the Miamis, is by placing a Fort in such a position that it may be easy of access from the River, be readily supplied by Water Carriage with Provisions, and should it be invested that the Islands in the River and the distance of the opposite banks might afford opportunities of every collateral assistance being given to the Post by such force as could be collected, and which might possibly operate to advantage on some separate points, which so wide an extent of ground may probably be supposed to render assailable.

Should Mr. Wayne leave the Post in his rear and move to Detroit it is apparent that he must give a fair opening for striking at his Communications for sixty miles in extent.

Under this circumstance, I should immediately endeavour to occupy a camp at Turkey Point with all the force I could collect and unite, combining the advantage of our command of the Water and our superiority in Artillery.

I have directed a Log House defensible against Sandusky to be built at Turtle Island, and another at the River Raisin, and merlons of logs in the hog-pen manner, to be provided at those Posts, which being filled as occasion shall require, will give the adequate means of speedily erecting Batteries, and in the mean time, these houses will become intermediate deposits, absolutely necessary to the security of the navigation.

I have also desired Colonel England to pay particular attention to the instruction of as many soldiers as possible in the artillery exercise, and on the approach of Mr. Wayne I should not hesitate to withdraw from Detroit all the troops but those sufficient to defend Fort Lernoult, and most certainly to drive away or consume all the cattle in the vicinity.

I do not find, My Lord, that the Sandusky or any other River affords by its collateral branches any means of striking into Wayne's rear, should he descend the Miamis. It seems probable that should he penetrate as far as Roche de Bout, he would then change his direction, at least if the possession of Detroit be his aim, and passing by the heads of the small rivers which run between the Detroit and the Miamis, without the intervention of any difficult ground from swamps or thick woods, he would then have an easy march of not more than sixty miles to the Detroit.

If therefore sufficient time be allowed for the properly fortifying of the Miamis Fort, and that its Guns shall be of a larger calibre than what Mr. Wayne can bring against it, I should hope that Your Lordship's views on the establishment of a Post on the Miamis would be as successful as they are decisive and provident.

In a sketch which is now transmitted, Your Lordship will perceive the Islands in Lake Erie laid down with a greater degree of accuracy than I apprehend they have hitherto been delineated. A contrary wind which detained us there, enabled Lieutenant Pilkington to accomplish this sketch. In Hope's Cove protected by St. George's Island, there is a very secure winter harbour for our shipping.

I cannot but say, that I am not without apprehension of such respectable pieces of ordnance as eighteen pounders being trusted at Fort Lernoult, I would rather wish them brought back to Niagara, as the whole of these Posts, those on the Detroit, the Miamis, and even the Islands are frozen up in the Winter. A

winter Campaign is more practicable in these parts of America than at any other season, but I should hope that a siege would be totally impossible.

I shall transmit to Your Lordship without delay, the exact plan of all the Works ordered to be constructed, so soon as it shall be possible for Lieut. Pilkington to determine upon the detail of the arrangement subject to local contingencies and circumstances. He is fully instructed in my general ideas of the mode of construction.

I have the honor, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Lord Dorchester.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, April 29th, 1794.

My Lord:

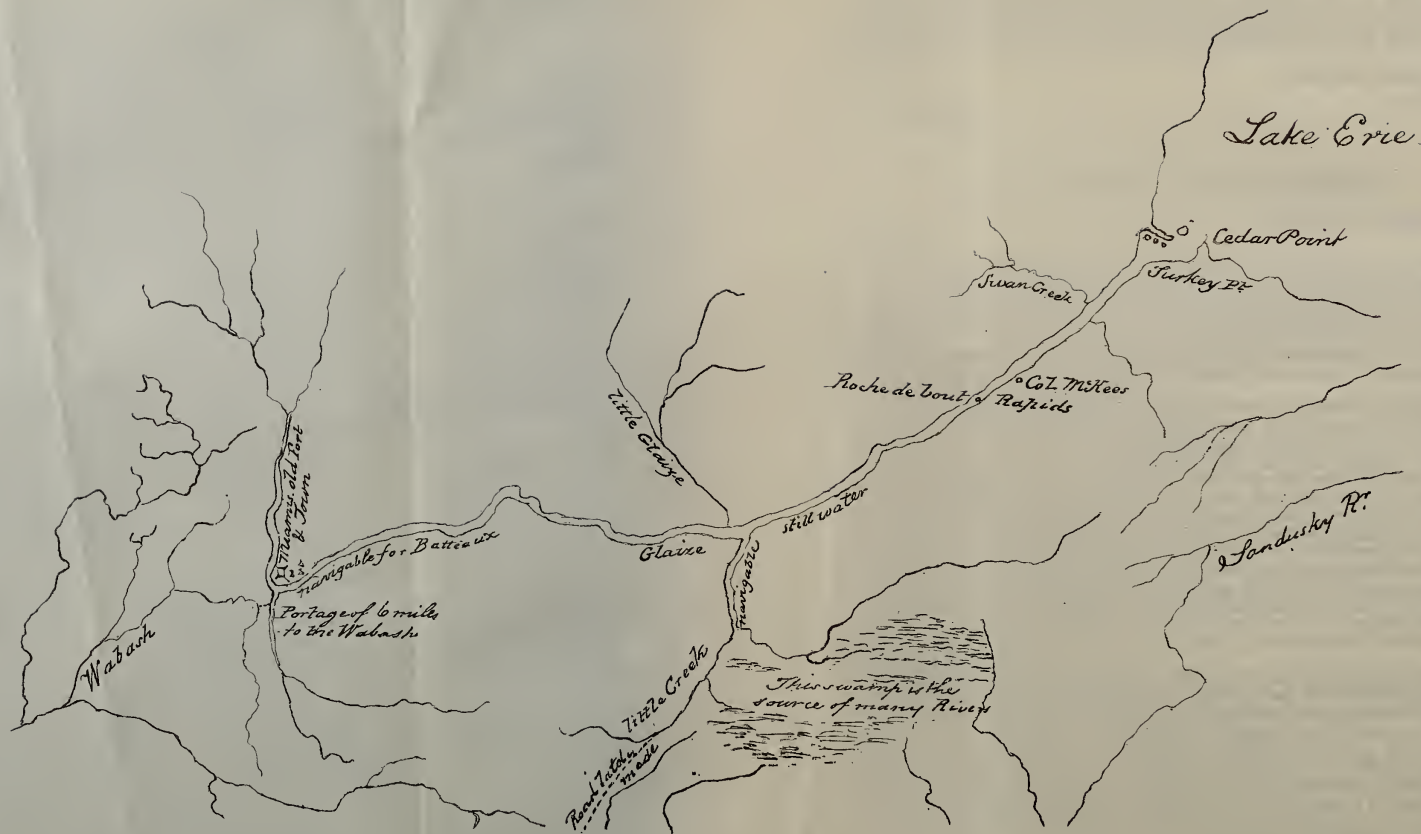
I take the earliest opportunity of forwarding to Your Lordship, a letter which I received from the Spanish Governor of Louisiana, together with my Answer.

The Lieutenant Governor of that Province, Capt. Trudeau, who has been remarkably civil to our traders, forwarded the Message by a white man, a Shawanese well known to Colonel McKee. In a very polite letter which he writes to me, this Gentleman observes, "*Le Gouverneur m'a donne connaissance du contenu, ce me fait presumer qu'il n'avait pas des notions bien parfait du local lorsqu'il a porté ses vues sur votre contenir?*"

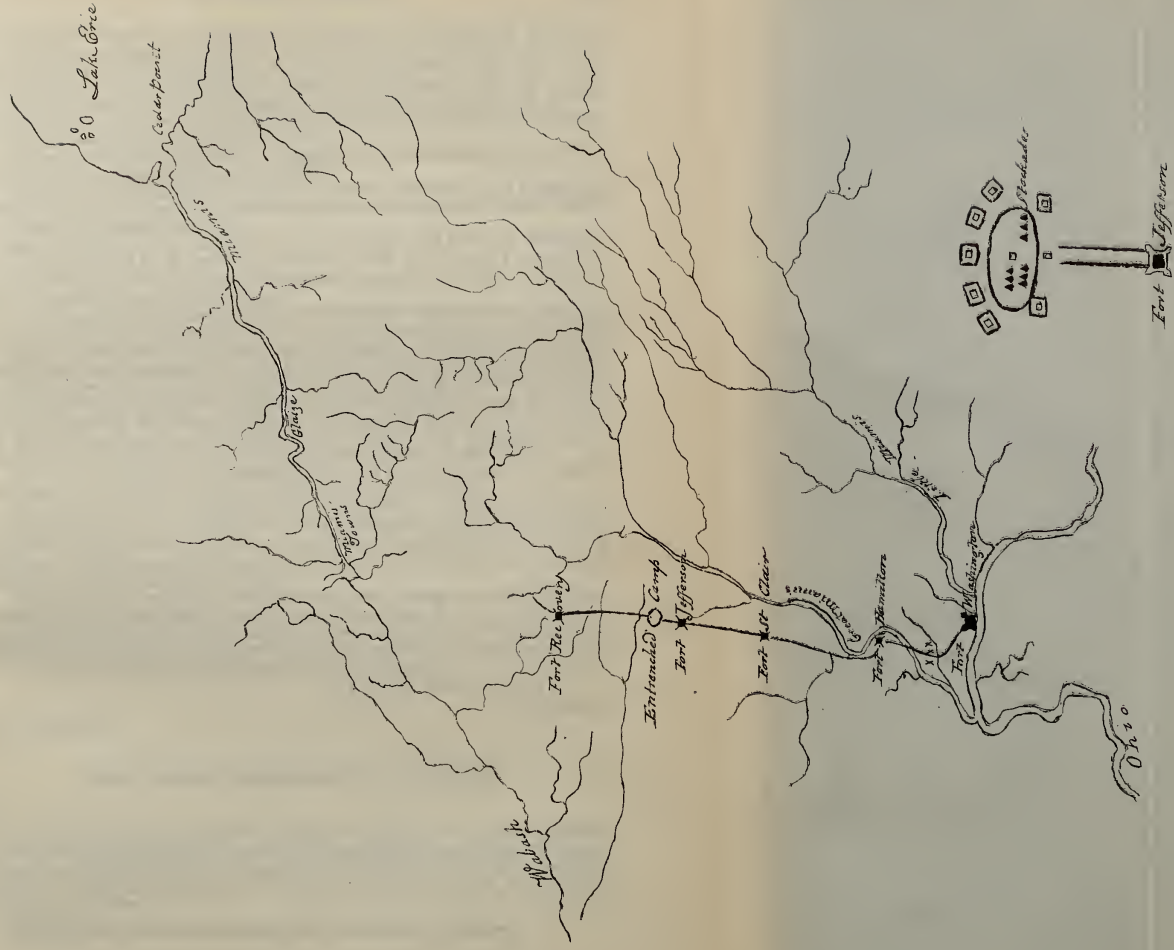
The Shawanese was twenty days from St. Louis and expected to be only fourteen on his return. It was intimated to him that it would be easy for the Spanish if requisite to co-operate with us by their Gun Boats which they have on the Ohio, and by occupying the mouth of the Wabash to give a similar support to the intermediate Indians as our possessions at the mouth of the Miamis of the Lake affords.

I must observe to Your Lordship that a few days previous to my arrival at the Miamis, a Speech had been sent by the Spanish Lieut. Governor to the neighbouring Nations, and which had been transmitted to Detroit, calling upon them for their assistance, and promising the most active support.—This Speech, it is believed has produced the most important effects, scarcely leaving a single Indian Nation without the determined Resolution of attacking the United States, in particular the Chicasaws, before the departure of the Shawanese had cut off ten of the Kaskaskias, suspected of being well affected to the United States. It was also intimated to the Shawanese that by the route of Chicago, it was extremely practicable for British troops to pass.

I have always been of opinion that a Post at Chicago would be more eminently necessary to His Majesty's Interests in case of War, than that of Michilimackinac. I am confirmed in this belief by existing circumstances as represented by Colonel McKee—At this place there are some people, refugees from Detroit, and a Black Chief who have constantly been in the pay of the United States, and by every possible means have endeavoured to alienate the Indians from the British Interests. Colonel McKee thinks it very necessary that an Agent should reside in that Quarter, as till of late has been usual. In my Answer to Mr. Trudeau, I enclosed to him Your Lordship's late Proclamation against the Jacobin Emissaries & observed to him that the French inhabitants of the Illinois and at Vincennes were eminently of this description. By the Account of the Shawanese the Spanish Government



Forts abandoned in the Peace (1783), Wabash District.



From Fort Recovery } 70 miles
to the Glaise -
Glaise to Ft. Mifflin . 40

J.

A Sketch of the Route of Gen. Wayne, 1794.

acts with great vigour in that part of the Country, and expressed his surprise at the very different language which was held by the British Canadians, in respect to the Subjects of the United States, to what was permitted at St. Louis.

The Indians on the Wabash have quitted the lower parts of that River, and by their approximation to Detroit (should not Mr. Wayne advance), the benefits of their Trade will return into the accustomed channel. This movement has exceedingly alarmed the Settlers at Vincennes.

It appears that the Chippewas, in consequence of some superstitious Circumstances have unanimously determined on War.

I enclose to Your Lordship the Speech of the Six Nations at the Meeting of Buffaloe Creek—It is considered as the most respectable Assembly of those Nations which have met for some Six Years.

General Wayne was by the last account at the picquetted Camp (or Polanque) at Grenville, covered by Redoubts a quarter of a Mile in its front; I transmit to Your Lordship such a Sketch of his Line of March as can be collected, and in some degree improved from Hutchin's Map.

The last accounts from the Indians are, that General Wayne has sent a thousand men beyond the Ohio, as the Prisoners they took informed them, on the account of the War on the coast, they say they saw the Troops on their march; some event possibly may have happened that has changed his apparent resolutions, as Your Lordship will perceive by the Sketch that he had cut a road in a different direction from Sinclair's projected march, pointing not to the Miamis Towns, but to the navigable waters of the Glaize which has confirmed the Reports of the Indians now publicly mentioned in the American News Papers, that he had expressed himself, "That he hoped to drink with them of the waters of Lake Erie."

It is given out that he is to march in May, and I presume some hundreds of the Indians are now set off to oppose him and strike at his Convoys.

The Inhabitants of the Genesee are under great alarm. They have had Arms sent to them, and as I understand, five pieces of Cannon are now at the Forks of that River. By a letter just received from Albany, dated the 10th of April, It is said that a Packet has arrived from England at New York, that gives favorable expectations of the preservation of Peace.

Whether this Event shall or shall not take place, it must be evident to Your Lordship that from the Effect which the late Transactions have had in respect to the Indians, there can be no Safety for this Province, and, of course, British America, should they be abandoned to themselves and not confirmed in their just Claims by the determined and avowed Mediation of Great Britain.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Lord Dorchester.

FROM ROBERT HAMILTON TO J. G. SIMCOE.

Sir:

Neither myself nor the enclosed paper on the subject of the Portage Road¹ should at this moment intrude on your more interesting concerns, did not the season of the year require that the plan if approved of, should be carried into immediate execution. Your kind attention to this business when convenient, will therefore be a particular favor.

¹ The road on the left bank of the Niagara river from Queenston to Chippawa.

I take at the same time the liberty of enclosing two private letters received the other day from the States, as they contain a little practical information on the present crisis, how far to be depended on your better judgment will determine.

Should the present rumours of war in the end be unfortunately verified, perhaps it might be of some consequence to have a company of Militia at this place a little more active than ordinary for prevention of improper things at the Ferry, for the security of boats or cannon in the river, and for many other purposes that might occur at this important post while without troops.

Though a man of peace, yet when the business of fighting becomes *pro aris et focis*, I trust I will not be found backward and with this view, I now make an offer of my own services and of those of all my people, and I believe of almost all my neighbours round as active militia men in any line that your Excellency may think our exertions can be useful in this vicinity. Perhaps something in the way of an independent company as allowed by the militia act might be most effectual for those particular purposes, but as my only wish in the event of danger to the Settlement is to be of use, so the manner is of little consequence.

I have the honor to be, &c.

R. HAMILTON.

P.S. The schooner *Simcoe*¹ is now here and will be ready to sail for Kingston on Monday morning, should your Excellency have any commands for that quarter.

Queenston, April 29th, 1794.

His Excellency Lt. Govr. Simcoe.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, 30th April, 1794.

My Lord:

I do myself the honor of informing Your Lordship, that in consequence of the complaint of the Seven Nations of Canada made against Colonel McKee, and their desire in the name of the other Nations that Mr. Baby might be appointed Superintendent in his room, at the request of Colonel McKee, Egushwai, Chief of the Ottawas, was questioned on this Subject, in my presence.

He said he knew nothing further of the Complaint than that some of the Seven Nations desired of him to join in it, and to request that Mr. Montigni might be appointed Superintendent. This he said he refused, and added that if any Chief of the Lake Indians joined the Seven Nations in this request, it must be a particular person whom he named, of no consideration or respectability.

I transmit to Your Lordship a Speech transmitted to me by the Indians assembled at the Glaize, and also one delivered by Egushwai, in respect to the Inhabitants on the River au Raisin, together with my Answer.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

J. G. SIMCOE.

Lord Dorchester.

¹ Owned by Mr. Hamilton.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NIAGARA, 30th April, 1794.

My Lord:

On the moment of my leaving this place for York, I am informed that the People of the Genesee are in general very well disposed to submit to the British Government, but that a force has been requested from Congress for their protection, and such, it is supposed, will be granted. I also understand that the people of themselves are now more determined than ever to attempt Oswego; the stores and Ordnance there are so valuable that I have directed Capt. Seward to make a Report upon that Subject, which is to be transmitted to Your Lordship.

The retreat from this Post, which I apprehend at present not to be defensible for greater numbers to occupy it is, I am well informed, impracticable. Of course under present Circumstances, I do not think it prudent to reinforce it, particularly as it is very obnoxious to desertion, and the troops I have, cannot reasonably be expected as yet, to be so well disciplined as to withstand the temptations that influence even older Soldiers.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble Lord Dorchester. Comdr.-in-Chief. &c., &c.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

April 30th, 1794.

My Lord:

I have paid every attention in my power to form a judgment of what assistance may be expected from the People of this Province, and I offer the following Arrangements to Your Lordship's Consideration.

In the Detroit District, I think it would be possible to raise four independent Companies, to consist in the first instance of sixty men each, but not to be restricted in their number—the clothing and the Subaltern Officers to be named by the Captains.

Two of these Companies I should propose to be English, and two French, the French to be commanded by Mr. Maisonville¹ and Mr. Francois Baby,² the English by Capt. Caldwell³ and Capt. Elliott⁴—The Advantages that would accrue would be, that as these Gentlemen are nominated by Col. McKee and Mr. Baby, between whom there is the strictest Union, and as these Gentlemen are respectively at the head of the Settlements at Detroit, Colonel McKee would probably be able to graft upon them such numbers of the Militia as might enable your Lordship to entrust to these Companies the defence of Detroit, the Miamis, Sandusky, Chicago, and Michilimackinac, and that in a great degree a cordial co-operation of Interests between the Canadian and British Settlers might be effected.

In respect to Niagara, I should propose that Capt. Johnson⁵ of the Indian Department, a most useful and valuable Servant of the Crown, and of the first

¹Probably Alexis Maisonville, who had for some time commanded a company of militia at Detroit, and afterwards commanded a flank company of the 2nd Essex Regiment in 1812-3.

²Francois Baby, a brother of Hon. Jacques Baby; member of the Assembly for Kent, 1792-6; Assistant Quartermaster General, 1812-14; prisoner of war, February, 1814.

³William Caldwell.

⁴Mathew Elliott.

⁵William Johnston.

influence among the Senecas, might have another Company. Mr. Hamilton of the Legislative Council has also offered himself for this service.

These Companies might maintain the Communication between Fort Erie and Presqu'Isle, if occupied, and Niagara.

I have but little doubt but that Lieut. Johnson Butler,¹ the son of the Colonel, might speedily raise another Company; one might be procured in all probability in the Bay of Quinte, one might be raised to protect Oswegatchie and Fort Levy. I strongly recommended to Your Lordship the embodying the McDonnells under the Command of Mr. McDonnell, the Speaker of the House of Assembly, a half-pay Captain of distinguished gallantry in the last War. I have but little doubt that he could raise a loyal Battalion of three hundred men, which might be ready to act wheresoever Your Lordship should think proper.

I cannot but lament, among my other public disappointments, at this period, that I have not a Company of Military Artificers and a Field Train in this Country. In the Emergencies of War, they would be of the most important Service.

A Mr. Holt, of Sorrel, or William Henry, offered to raise a Company of Artificers on a Plan which I should have thought highly of, had I not reasonably expected that a Company of Artificers would have been allotted as necessary, both on the Peace or War Establishment of this Colony, from principles of general economy.²

I have the honor to be, &c.

Lord Dorchester.

J. G. SIMCOE.

FROM C. T. A. SCHOEDDE TO E. B. LITTLEHALES.

FORT ONTARIO, 1st May, 1794.

Sir:

Be pleased to acquaint His Excellency Colonel Simcoe that on the 10th of April last one Church belonging to Oswegatchie passed this Post in the night with 12 barrels of salt. He returned again and repassed this Post again on the night of the 23rd ult. and would have escaped but for the strong current and the drag rope breaking. He was discovered about two miles up the river and I ordered him to be brought back; his load, 12 barrels of flour, in the identical salt barrels he smuggled before, and one barrel of pork.

There are two brothers of that name, both great smugglers, and the one whose boat was seized made no difficulty to say that he had sold the salt well, and taking the flour was but a trifle. He has gone with his boat's crew to Onondago but I keep a good look out for his return.

Three men deserted on the 30th ult. but were retaken six or seven miles from the Garrison. I have tried them here and approved of the sentence and Lt. Gordon who goes with them to Kingston is to have the sentence executed if Captain Porter will permit his drummer to do so, or if he will send me a drummer to come here I will punish them on the spot; but I have not left the execution of the sentence at Captain Porter's option as he once before forgave the two deserters and the two thieves sent there by His Excellency's orders, which I conceived both as a reflection on me and a bad precedent to others.

The three men returned as enlisted in the month are the three retaken.

I have the honor to be, &c.

Your most obedient, &c.

Major of Brigade Littlehales.

C. T. A. SCHOEDDE.

¹ Afterwards Lieutenant Colonel, Commanding 4th Regiment of Lincoln Militia, died on service, 1 Dec., 1812.

² See Vol. I, pp. 57-8.

FROM WILLIAM CALDWELL TO ALEXANDER McKEE.

DETROIT, 2nd May, 1794.

Dear Sir:

I send you enclosed a List of the Militia residing in the County of Essex, you will find several names but no age opposite to them, they are men who were not present, likewise there are some who have not yet given in their names but Mr. Field¹ and Mr. McKillip² in whose Companies they are, promised to send them to me as soon as they possibly can.

I did not think fit to give Colonel England a List until I hear from you. There are several of the new Settlement who say they will not serve under Stockwell,³ it seems they understand he is to be a Lieutenant, they have made complaints against him at the Presbitery at the enrolling of the Militia, Tom. Smith⁴ took down their Names & promised to send me their Complaints in writing which when received I shall transmit to you by the first opportunity. In the mean time I remain &c.

WM. CALDWELL.⁵COPY OF A LETTER FROM GEO. IRNSIDE & RANALD McDONELL
TO COLONEL McKEE.

GLAIZE, 3d May, 1794.

Sir:

As the Indians are much influenced in their opinions and behaviour by the talk of a great many people living here We thought that Government might be happy to hear these things altho they are not all supported by the evidence of White people, yet we know that the Indians have been tampered with by the Messrs. Lassells on several occasions.

The Gris a Chief of the Miamis came last Winter to Mr. MacDonnell and asked him in a very serious manner of what Antoine Lassell had told him concerning the harbour of Quebec being blocked up by a French fleet was really true or not; & hoped as he had always been known to be a friend to the English he would not keep any thing of that kind from him.

Mr. Ironside also heard Antoine Lassell say that along with the Speeches from the Spaniards there came one from the French at New York telling the Indians that they would in a short time see their old Father among them.

Mr. McDonell was told by Jacques Lassell, who supported his assertion with a good deal of warmth, that the combined powers would never be able on acco't of the great resources of France to make the least impression upon her, or bring about any Counter Revolution.

Every action of the French they magnify & any success of the English & Combined powers, they wish to keep hid from the Indians or entirely misrepresent it to them.—We could mention many more circumstances tending to shew the

¹Daniel Fields, formerly a corporal in Butler's Rangers, afterwards a captain in the Kent militia.

²Daniel McKillop, formerly a serjeant in Butler's Rangers, afterwards a lieutenant in the Essex Militia; killed 20 August, 1794, in the action at the Fallen Timber.

³James Stockwell, afterwards an ensign in the Essex Militia.

⁴Thomas Smith, a loyalist, who came to Fort Niagara in 1776 with a plan of Fort Stanwix and intelligence, afterwards a captain in the Essex Militia.

⁵Formerly a captain in Butler's Rangers, then Lieutenant-Colonel in Essex Militia.

intention of the French in this part of the Country to render the Indians discontented & confound their Council but we imagine these may be sufficient. It is well known to us who have lived among the Indians some years that they have been led astray by the insinuations of the French & some others, which has occasioned you Sir in particular a great deal of trouble to keep them in the Interest of Great Britain.

We have the honor to be, &c.,
GEO. IRONSIDE.
RANALD MACDONELL.¹

Colonel McKee.

GLAIZE, 3d May, 1794.

Father:

In addition to what my two friends have wrote to you I must also tell you that the story about the harbour of Quebec being blocked up by a french Fleet was told by Francois Lafontaine to Kiwathana one of my people. The above Lafontaine & the other French traders who live among the Miamis are those who have rendered the Miamis, the Ouiattanons, & the Poutawatamies so backward and lukewarm by such reports as these. Since the above report & others have been circulated among the Miamis who no doubt take them for truth, they are not so strong in the cause as they used to be.

his
Captain X JOHN
mark

Witness:

T. Alex. Clarke.

FROM JAMES MONROE TO THOMAS JEFFERSON.

PHILA, May 4, 1794.

(*Extract.*)

Since my last the proposition of Mr. Clarke for prohibiting the importation of British goods until the posts shall be surrendered & compensation made for the depredation on our trade was rejected in the Senate. Upon the question on the first section wh. determined the fate of the bill, Jackson and Bradley withdrew which left us 11 only against 14; in consequence of wh. every section was negatived, yet a question was notwithstanding taken whether the bill sho'd be read a 3d time and in favor of which these gentn. voted, & Ross the successor of Gallatin taking it into his head now to withdraw, the house was equally divided & the casting vote given by V. President agnst it. Thus the bill was lost, the most mature and likely to succeed of all the propositions respecting G. Britn. wh have been presented before the Legislature during the session. Its fate may be ascribed to an executive manoeuvre; for whilst it was depending in the Rep. branch & obviously a great majority in its favor; the nomination of Mr. Jay was introduc'd, as Envoy Extry. for the British court. From that moment it was manifest the measure wo'd be lost, and altho' it

¹ Formerly Lieutenant and Adjutant in the 1st Battalion of the 84th Regiment and afterward a Lieutenant in the 2nd Battalion Royal Canadian Volunteers. He served in the army 32 years and 7 months; 6 years and 6 months in the 17th Regiment; 12 years in the 60th; 8 years and 4 months in the 84th; and 5 years and 9 months in the 2nd Battalion, R.C.V. At the time this letter was written he was trading among the Indians.

passed the other branch & perhaps with a greater vote than would have been the case, had not the sense of the Senate been clearly indicated by the approbation of the nomination, yet it was plain the prospect of success was desperate. An Extry mission was a measure of conciliation, it was urged; prohibitory regulations were of a different character & wo'd defeat its object. Thus you find nothing has been carried agnst that nation, but on the contrary the most submissive measure adopted that co'd be devised, to court her favor & degrade our character.

Tis said the Envoy will be armed with extry powers, & that authority to form a commerel treaty will likewise be comprised in his instructions. Under a similar power upon a former occasion, granted too by implication only, this person had well nigh bartered away the Mississippi. What then may we not expect from him upon the present crisis, when the power is expressly granted and the fortune of the party whose agent he is, may be considered as hazarded in the success of his mission? After degrading our Country by shewing to the world, that they were more willing to confide in retribution &c. from their justice & favor than from the strength of our union & the decision of our councils, will this man return baffled in the enterprize, & seek to atone for himself & those who sent him, to the community, by owning his and their folly which had exposed us to such humiliation? And when it is considered that Britain contemplates the conquest of the French & perhaps afterwards of the Sph Islands, & the downfall of the Sph power in this region of the world—a course of policy which will part her not only from Spn. but perhaps from the present combination of powers, is it not probable she will be disposed to seek an alliance here as well for the purpose of aiding her in these projects as detaching us from France? Some symptoms of discontent have already appeared in the Sph cabinet, and these it is probable will be increased when the conquest of Britn in the Islands is attended to, and her views become further developed. The circumstance of sending an envoy to negotiate with Engld at the time that the Minister of France, on the ground & cloathed with similar powers, is only amused with acts of civility, shews that a connection with the former power is the real object of the Executive.

(Printed in the "Writings of James Monroe," edited by S. L. Hamilton, Vol. I., pp. 292-5.)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

YORK, May 4th, 1794.

My Lord:

I do myself the honor of enclosing to Your Lordship an extract from a letter from Capn. Schoedde, commanding at Ontario, to Major of Brigade Littlehales.

In addition to my communications of the 29th of April, I take this opportunity of stating to Your Lordship that I had an interview with the Corn Planter at Niagara. That Chief renewed his promises to Mr. Johnson¹ that no Post should be established at Presqu'Isle by the people of the States.

The Onondagas mean privately to quit their Country and to proceed by Oswego to Buffaloe Creek. This movement will certainly occasion considerable alarm in the Genesee, and particularly to Mr. Danforth, who, as Your Lordship will see by the map, lives in their reservation. He is the most virulent enemy of Great

¹ William Johnston of the Indian department.

Britain in that Country. I have received a letter from Mr. Hammond, requesting me to send some confidential person to him. This request is dated a few days prior to Capn. Littlehales setting off for Philadelphia. I think it probable that Gentleman will be charged by Mr. Hammond with dispatches for Your Lordship.

I have transmitted Lt. Muller's leave of absence, agreeable to Capn. Schoedde's request.

I have the honor to remain, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

THE THREE NATIONS AT THE GLAIZE TO COLONEL McKEE.

GLAIZE 6th May, 1794.

Father:

Some days ago we sent off some young men to bring us a prisoner that we might know what the big knives were doing—Twenty Shawanese were sent in different parties, one of which has now returned & has brought us what we wanted—Some of our Grandfathers are also gone on the same business, but we know not the number; We must now send the prisoner to you that you may know the News—

Father,

We are happy to know the present situation of the Virginians, and we are all now getting ready to drive them out of our Country & hope you will come and join us—

We send the prisoner by the three men who took him; we hope you will use them well & give them a little clothing.—

Father: We imagined the Governor had put a stop to the sale of rum, but we see it every day brought up from the Rapids: Why is it not stopped there?

Father: Last fall when Skepukanissica came from the Rapids he saw John Kenzie¹ give Wells² a letter, which we suppose contained some intelligence: this Wells has now four times done us mischief & we blame John Kenzie in a great measure as being the occasion of it.—

Father: If you have any Vermillion Day will bring us up some, as the young men have nothing to paint themselves with.—Two of our young men also have no Guns. Pray send us two by Day.

Strings of White Wampum.

A. McKee, D.A.I.A.

Big knives is the name they Call the Virginians by.

¹ John Kinzie, born at Quebec in 1763, became a silversmith and Indian trader; settled at Chicago in 1804; captain of militia in 1812; taken prisoner by Indians after evacuation of that place August 15, 1812; died at Chicago, 6 January, 1828.

² Probably William Wells, an adopted son of Little Turtle, afterwards Indian agent for the United States at Fort Wayne; killed in action near Chicago, August 15, 1812.

SPEECHES OF THE WESTERN INDIANS AT THE MIAMIS RAPIDS.

MIAMIS RAPIDS, May 7th, 1794.

Two Deputies of the 3 Nations of the Glaize arrived here yesterday with a Speech from the Spaniards, brought by the Delawares residing near their Posts which was repeated in a Council held this day to the following Nations now at this place viz.

Wyandots.
Ottawas,

Mingoes,
Munseys.

Grand Children & Brothers:

We are just arrived from the Spanish Settlements upon the Mississippi and are come to inform you what they said to us in a late Council; these are their words;

Children, Delawares:

6 Strings White Wampum.

"Pointing to this Country"

When you first came from that Country to ask my protection and when you told me, you had escaped from the heat of a great fire that was like to scorch you to death I took you by the hand, and under my protection, and told you to look about for a piece of land to hunt on and to plant, for the support of yourselves and families in this Country, which the Great Spirit had given for our mutual benefit and support. I told you at the same time that I would watch over it and if anything threatened us with danger, that I would immediately speak to you, & that when I did speak to you it would behoove you to be strong and listen to my words.

Delivered 6 Strings White Wampum.

The Spaniard then addressing himself to all the Nations who were present said,

Children:

These were my words to all the Nations who are now present as well as to your Grand Fathers the Delawares. Now Children I have called you together to communicate to you certain Intelligence of a large force assembling on the Shawanoe River to invade our Country, it has given me very great satisfaction to observe the very strong confederacy formed among you, and I have no doubt of your ready assistance to repel this force.

Children: You see me now on my feet and grasping the Tomahawk to strike them.

Children: We will strike them together, I do not desire you to go before me in the front—but to follow me—these people have too long disturbed our Country and have extinguished many of our Council Fires—they are but a trifling People compared to the White People who are now combined against them, and determined to crush them for their evil deeds, they must by this time be surrounded with enemies, as all the white nations are against them.

Your French Father also speaks thro' me to you that those of his subjects who have joined the Big Knives, are only a few of his disobedient children which have joined the disobedient in this country, but as we are strong and unanimous, we hope by the assistance of the Great Spirit to put a stop to their mischievous designs.

Delivered a bunch of Black Wampum.

Children: Now I present you with a War Pipe, which has been sent in all our names to the Musquahkies, and all those Nations who live towards the setting of the sun, to get upon their feet, and take hold of our Tomahawk, and as soon as they smoked it, they sent it back with a promise to get immediately on their feet to join us and strike the enemy, their particular answer to me was.

Father: "We have long seen the designs of the Big Knives against our country, and also some of our own colour particularly the Kaskaskies, who have always spoke with the same tongue as the Big Knives, they must not escape our revenge, nor must you, Father, endeavour to prevent us from extirpating them, when this is accomplished, Father, we shall still have to go to two other tribes of our colour the Pi-an-ki-shaws and the Cayaughkias, who have been strongly attached to our enemies, the Big Knives—they shall share the same fate as the Kaskaskies."

Now Children: You hear what these distant nations have said to us so that we have nothing further to do but put our designs in immediate execution, and to forward this Pipe to the three warlike Nations, who have so long been struggling for their Country, and who now sit at the Glaize, tell them to smoke this pipe & forward it to all the Lake Indians, and their Northern Brethren, then nothing will be wanting to compleat our general union from the rising to the setting of the sun, and all Nations will be ready to add strength to the blow we are going to make.

Delivered a War Pipe.

Children: I now deliver to you a message from the Creeks, Cherokees, Choc-taws and Chickasaws, who desire you to be strong in uniting yourselves, and tell you it has given them pleasure to hear that you have been so unanimous in listening to your Spanish Father and they acquaint you that their Hearts are joined to ours, and that there are eleven Nations of the Southern Indians now on their feet, with the Hatchet now in their Hands ready to strike them.

The Deputies from the 3 Nations at the Glaize after repeating the above Speeches from the Spaniards, addressed themselves to the several Nations in Council in the following manner.

Brethren:

You have now heard the speeches brought to our Council at the Glaize a few days ago from the Spaniards, and as soon as they heard them and smoked the pipe, their hearts were glad and they determined to step forward and put into execution the advice sent them, they desire you to forward the pipe as has been recommended to all our Northern Brethren, not doubting but as soon as you have smoked it you will follow their example and they will hourly expect you to join them, as it will not be many days before the nearness of our Enemies will give us an opportunity of striking them.

Delivered the Pipe.

Brothers: Our Grand Fathers the Delawares, spoke first in our late Council at the Glaize on this piece of painted Tobacco, and this painted black wampum, and expressed their happiness at what they had heard from their Spanish Father and their Brethren to the Westward, and desired us to tell you to forward this Tobacco and Wampum to the Wyandots to be sent to all the Lake Indians and inform them that in eight days they would be ready to go against the Virginians who are now so near us; and that according to the number of Indians collected, they would either engage the Army or cut off their supplies. The Delawares also directed us to say to the Wyandots that as they are our Elder Brethren, and took the lead in all our affairs last summer, it was thought strange that none of them were now there, to put the resolutions then formed in execution, it is true some of them went last fall when it was thought too late, and the assembling the Nations was put

off till the Spring, but the Spring is now far advanced, and none of them have yet come.

Delivered the Tobacco & Wampum.

Egoushiway answered for all the Nations present.

Brothers: I am happy at the good news you have told us and we will immediately go and collect all our people and be with you as soon as possible.

A. McKEE

D.A.I.A.

In Mr. Chew's, 16th June, 94.

SPEECH OF THE SEVEN NATIONS OF CANADA TO THE INDIAN NATIONS OF MICHILIMACKINAC DELIVERED AT MONTREAL
THE 7TH OF MAY, 1794.

Brothers:

I did my best, we are seven Nations. Just what you bid me do, I did, take my speech, you told me I shut my ears that I did not hear. I did that. Now you shall hear the King. You'll consider of it, there is your paper come to you again.

Brothers: You'll consider of it. Perhaps there will two come to settle the affair with you.—

Brothers: We are all in good health and well (the seven Nations) I hope you are in the same situation, in good health. I wish you well Brothers, and the Commanding Officer at Micilimackinac.

4 Strings Black and White Wampum.

As Interpreted by Jacob Hill.

MONTREAL, May 8th, 1794.

Dear Sir:

Yesterday Several of the Chiefs of Caughnawaga Brought me Lord Dorchester's Reply to the Seven Nations of Canada—saying they were sent by Colonel Campbell who desired I would have Copies taken off & forwarded to Michilimackinac, at the same time they delivered a Speech to be sent with the Copies of the Reply of which the inclosed is a Copy, these Papers with a Belt & the 4 Strings of Wampum were immediately put up, Directed to Captain Doyle and will be forwarded to him by Mr. Todd in two or three days to be delivered to the Mackinac Indians.

I am &c.

(UNSIGNED.)

Thomas Aston Coffin, Esqr.

FROM ALEXANDER DAVISON TO J. G. SIMCOE.

HARPER STREET, Thursday 8th May, 1794.

Sir:

I am all hurry in setting off previous to our Army's encampment, which is extended within these few days by 10,000 men. My brother is to supply the flour to the Canadas this summer on commission, as settled between the Treasury and Victualling Boards. May I rely on your friendly protection to him in whatever he does in your Government? Be assured he will be in every particular ambitious

of obeying your wishes as well with regard to the person you wish to employ as Superintendent or as to the discharge of his trust. He will not go immediately out to Canada, but Mr. Bell¹ will wait on Your Excellency for any commands you think proper to communicate. Lord D. I find has written home about provisions, and much will depend on the report of next fall from you, regarding the drawing supplies of pork and flour from your own Province. If the *report from Upper Canada*, is as I hope *good* of Cartwright's pork, and the flour to be supplied by my brother, the system will be sustained against all the cold water thrown upon it at Quebec. Your Province will benefit, My brother, with your protection, will doubtless be continued, and I and your other friends will be highly gratified and particularly obliged.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

ALEXANDER DAVISON.

His Excellency Governor Simcoe, Upper Canada.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM COLO. ALEXR. McKEE TO JOSEPH
CHEW, SECRETARY OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, DATED MIAMIS
RAPIDS, MAY THE 8TH, 1794.

The face of the Indian Affairs in this Country, I have the greatest satisfaction to inform you, seems considerably altered for the better. His Excellency Lord Dorchester's Speech to the 7 Nations, and the arrival here of Speeches from the Spaniards, Copies of which are inclosed, induce me to believe that a very extensive union of the Indian Nations will be the immediate consequence.

You will also receive inclosed a Copy of a letter from General Wilkinson to Captain Gibson,² found on the prisoner Evans, whose information is also inclosed together with a Speech from the 3 Nations at the Glaize to myself—These papers will nearly put you in possession of the State of Affairs here; But as yet we have no accounts of an Absolute rupture with the States consequently it is beyond the limits of my power to assure the Indians of support, any further than that the Lieut. Governor has ordered a strong detachment of the 24th Regt. to take post about a mile & a half below this place, this step has given great spirits to the Indians and impressed them with the hope of our ultimately acting with them and affording a security for their families, should their Enemy penetrate to their Villages.

I trust that it is not Necessary for me to Observe that a considerable addition of presents &c., in case we should be engaged in a War will be indispensable, from the great influx of distant Indians and the incapacity of the Warriors to provide any Cloathing for themselves and families while so engag'd.

I cannot avoid again repeating to you, the smallness of the allowance of stationary, being often obliged to purchase it and when you consider that every Copy of a paper or return I make is to be sent to four different people, you will not be surprised at the consumption.

There are a few of the 7 Nations yet remaining in this Country, who give more trouble than all the other Nations, coming every six Weeks or two Months for Cloathing, Guns, &c. and disposing of their equipment almost as soon as they get

¹Mathew Bell, 1769-1849, of the firm of Munro and Bell, lessees of the Forges at Three Rivers, in which both the brothers Davison had formerly been interested.

²Commandant of Fort Recovery.

them. if they remain here their Cloathing &c. should be sent up, as they are not in the Calculation of Indians at this Post.

With the greatest regard I am, &c.,

A. McKEE.

Joseph Chew, Esqr.

FROM ALEXANDER McKEE TO JOSEPH BRANT.

DETROIT, May 10th, 1794.

Dear Sir:

I have just rec'd your Letter of the 8th Inst. by Delaware Aron who arrived here with his Party this morning, he has communicated to me the Business he has come upon to the Lake Indians, &c.

A large Assembly of those Nations is soon to take place at the foot of the Miamis Rapids; it is therefore thought expedient for him to attend there where he will have an opportunity not only of delivering his Messages in full Council, but also of hearing from them the Speeches brought lately into that Country from the Mississippi in the name of the Spaniards, Southern and Western Indians which seems to have given the Indians in this Quarter great spirits & made the Nations in general more unanimous than ever in supporting one another and their common Interest.

Aron on his return will be able to acquaint the Five Nations with their Brethren the Lake Indians [intentions] which are to be determined at the Intended Meeting which will be held in a few days, a great part of the Ottawas, Chipawas, Potawatomies &c. are now on their way there.

I am, &c.

A. McKEE.

Captain Brant.

FROM HENRY DUNDAS TO J. G. SIMCOE.

WHITEHALL, 11th May, 1794.

LT. GOVR. SIMCOE

No. 5.

Sir:

I have received and laid before The King your Letter No. 20, inclosing a Copy of one to you from Lord Dorchester, with your Answer, which contains such information and remarks on the nature and situation of the Province under Your Command, as cannot fail of being exceedingly useful and satisfactory to his Lordship.

The Idea entertained by many Persons, I understand, in Canada, that the French Armament on the North American Coast was destined for the River St. Lawrence, joined to the bickerings which prevailed at the same moment, on the Canadian Frontiers, between His Majesty's Subjects and those belonging to the United States, seems to have suggested to Lord Dorchester for the moment, an apprehension that it might, by possibility be necessary to alter the present situation of His Majesty's Forces in the Canadas.

The two Battalions however, to be raised in the Canadas, and the Recruits,

which the increased bounty will, I hope produce for completing His Majesty's Regiments now there to their full Establishment of 600 men each, will, as I have already stated to his Lordship, not only render the removal of the Force from Upper Canada unnecessary, but will obviate any difficulties that might prevent your occupying York as a place of Strength as well as Long Point, or some other situation on Lake Erie, both of which measures I have approved in the Letter to his Ldp above alluded to.—You will nevertheless be well aware, that neither the occupation of those Stations, nor the increase of our Forces in the Canadas, can at all render the pacifick conduct and Behaviour of His Majesty's Servants in those Provinces the less necessary or important.

With respect to the Indian presents, I have only to refer you to my Letter of the 16th of March last, in consequence of which you will, of course communicate with Lord Dorchester, respecting the adoption of such means under his Lordship's Authority as shall subject the distribution of those presents to the strictest control and Inspection, and at the same time, render them productive of the most beneficial effects to His Majesty's Service.

I am, &c.

HENRY DUNDAS.

Endorsed:—Draft To Lt. Govr. Simcoe, May 1794. No. 5.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NIAGARA, May 12, 1794.

My Lord:

I take this opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of various letters, and communications from Your Lordship, by Lt. Brice of the Engineers: to which I shall pay due attention and by the earliest conveyance do myself the honor of writing to Your Lordship more fully upon the several subjects therein contained.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM THREE INDIAN NATIONS TO ALEXANDER McKEE.

Glaize, 17th May, 1794.

Father:

You sent us word to be strong & send for the two Deserters that were at the Miamis Town along with Antoine Laselle, we have done as you desired us, & now send you one of them & one only, as Antoine Lasselle claims the other as his own property, having as he says caught them himself. In your turn we beg you will be strong & go for him as we are afraid he may let him go. You are master of the French here, we have done our best but they only make a mock of us.

THE THREE FIRES AT THE GLAIZE.¹

Father: You must also know that some French Traders who lately left the Miamis Town for White River have told the Delawares that we are now at peace

¹Delawares, Shawnees and Miamis.

with the Americans, & continue to go to the Forts in a friendly manner, which has been the occasion of all the hunters continuing in the woods to finish their hunts, not suspecting any danger. The French have done this.

FROM WILLIAM BERCZY TO J. G. SIMCOE.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY JOHN GRAVES SIMCOE ESQR. LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR &c.,
&c., &c., IN COUNCIL.

In the Extract from the Minute of Council of the 17th May Instant which was delivered to your Petitioners Dederic Conrad Brauer, Charles Lewis Brauer & William Berczy it is stated That a Tract of Land to the extent of Sixty four Thousand Acres be granted and that when they shall be properly settled the Petitioners may be at liberty to make further Application.

Your Petitioners desire to know more explicitly the Conditions to which they must submit themselves by settling this and other Tracts in future Time and they hope that it will be taken into Consideration the heavy Expences which they must undergo if they will effectually Succeed in the settlement of this and other Townships. In consideration of which they hope that they may enjoy at least the same advantages granted in former Times to other Individuals in Similar Instances.

I have the honour to be, &c.

WILLIAM BERCZY.

Endorsed: Pro Memoria to the Governor in Council 18 May, 1794, to know upon what terms the 64,000 acres stated were granted.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, May 19th, 1794.

Sir:

Immediately after Major Campbell's return here I sent the reinforcement directed by Your Excellency for Captain Steel¹ with a supply of provisions, and such stores as Lieut. Adye required. Since you left this Country, we have had little or no account of the American Army until the 14th inst. when Colonel McKee came in and brought with him the information he received from a prisoner taken by the Indians, and a letter found on him from Brigadier General Wilkinson to Captain Gibson, commanding at Fort Recovery. Copies of both I herewith enclose you. I also enclose a Spanish speech received by the Indians at the Glaize, and a speech made by the Three Nations at the Glaize to Colonel McKee. This intelligence and speeches should have been immediately forwarded if I had considered them of consequence sufficient to deprive this Post at this critical time of the only King's Vessel fit for service, but anxious to have one ready to communicate to Your Excellency of real importance, I detained the "Chippawa" and now write by a private vessel "The Nancy," the master of which I can depend upon, and will in a few days dispatch the Chippawa with probably some account of what the

¹Commanding Fort Miamis.

Indians have done that went out lately in force from the Glaize, with the avowed design of attacking some of the American Posts if they considered themselves equal to it, or interrupting their expected Convoys of provisions, and the Dunmore which is now in great forwardness will be ready to sail with any further information that reaches me.

The gun-boats are also long since prepared as you directed, look very smart, sail and work well, and I hope will answer the purpose they were intended for, better than was expected. I am, however, concerned to add that notwithstanding the assurance given Your Excellency by Commodore Grant, there has not a single seaman entered since he received your orders, nor is there any probability of one being engaged. Though immediately on your departure I advertised for them, and held out encouragement to such Canadians as would serve on board the vessels.

In answer to a letter that I wrote to Captain Doyle the beginning of this month, he mentioned that the numbers he at present has at Michillimackinac, are by no means sufficient to defend the extensive ruins of that Post if attacked, and that in his opinion an Officer and fifteen men would answer every purpose there, in case Your Excellency should find it expedient to withdraw him and any part of the present Garrison.

I send you a list of all those who reside at Mackinac, during the winter, and the names of the principal traders who resort there during the Summer, which Mr. Askin has provided me with. In my opinion there is not much apprehension of that Post being attacked while we preserve our friendship with the Indians, and our alliance with Spain.

The Merchants here have had several meetings on the subject of establishing a Post at the old Miamis Fort, as mentioned to you by Mr. Askin, but the plan is not in sufficient forwardness to be communicated to you.

Colonel McKee left early on Sunday the 18th inst., and promised to write to me immediately on his arrival at the Foot of the Rapids.

I have the honor to be, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency Lt. Govr. Simcoe.

FROM EDMUND RANDOLPH TO GEORGE HAMMOND.

PHILADELPHIA, May 20, 1794.

Sir:

It cannot be unknown to you, that a speech, said to be addressed, on the 11th of February, 1794, to several Indian Nations, and ascribed to the Governor General of his Britannic Majesty at Quebec, has appeared in most of the public prints in the United States. With so many circumstances of authenticity, after remaining so long without contradiction, it might have justified us in inquiring from you, whether it was really delivered under British authority. Our forbearance thus to inquire is conformable with the moderation which has directed the conduct of our Government towards Great Britain; and indicates, at the same time, our hope, from the declarations of yours, that its views would prove ultimately pacific and that it would discountenance every measure of its Officers having a contrary tendency.

Even now, Sir, while I entertain a firm persuasion, that in assuming this speech

to be genuine, I cannot well err, I shall be ready to retract the comments I am about to make, if you shall think proper to deny its authenticity.

At the very moment when the British were forwarding assurances of good will, does Lord Dorchester foster and encourage, in the Indians, hostile dispositions towards the United States. If it was part of the American character to indulge suspicion, what might not be conjectured as to the influence by which our treaty was defeated last year, from the assembling of the Deputies from almost all the Nations who were at the late General Council at the Miami, and whose enmity against us cannot be doubted? How nearly would that suspicion approach to proof, were we to recollect, that so high an Officer, as himself, would not rashly hazard this expression. "I should not be surprised, if we are at war with the United States in the course of the present year; and if we are, a line must then be drawn by the Warriors."

But this speech only forbodes hostility; the intelligence which has been received this morning is, if true, hostility itself. The President of the United States has understood through channels of real confidence, that Governor Simcoe has gone to the foot of the Rapids of the Miami, followed by three companies of a British regiment, in order to build a fort there.

Permit me then to ask, whether these things be so? It has been usual, for each party to a negotiation, to pay such a deference to the pretensions of the other, as to keep their affairs in the same posture, until the negotiation was concluded. On this principle, you complained, in your letter of the 5th June, 1792, of the jurisdiction attempted to be exercised, under the State of Vermont, within the district occupied by the troops of your King; and demanded, that our Government should suppress it, from respect to the discussion which was pending. On this principle you were assured that proper measures should be adopted. On the same principle, you renew, on the 10th of March 1794, a similar application; and are assured, that the measures of Government should correspond with its assurances. Accordingly, although the Forts, Garrisons, and Districts, to which your letters relate, are confessedly within the limits of the United States, yet have our Citizens been forbidden to interrupt you in the occupancy of them. What return then have we the right to expect?

But you will not suppose that I put the impropriety of the present aggression upon the pendency of the negotiation. I quote this only to shew the contrast between the temper observed on your part towards us, and on our part towards you. This possession of our acknowledged territory, has no pretext of *statu quo* on its side; it has no pretext at all. It is an act, *the hostility of which cannot be palliated* by any connection with that negotiation. It is calculated to support an enemy whom we are seeking to bring to peace.

A late mission of the United States to Great Britain, is an unequivocal proof, after all that has happened, of the sincere wish of our Government to preserve peace, and a good understanding with your Nation. But our honor and safety require that *an invasion shall be expelled*.

Let me therefore inform you, Sir, that I have it in charge from the President of the United States, to request and urge you to take immediate and effectual measures as far as in you lies, to suppress these hostile movements, to call to mind that the army of the United States, in their march against the enemy, will not be able to distinguish between *them*, and *any other people*, associated in the war; to compare these encroachments with the candour of our conduct, and the doctrines which you have maintained; and to admonish those who shall throw ob-

stacles in the way of negociation and tranquility, that they will be responsible for all the unhappy consequences. I have the honor to be,

With respect, Sir, your most obedient servant.

EDM. RANDOLPH.

Mr. Hammond, Minister Plenipotentiary of His Britannic Majesty.¹

(Printed in the New York Daily Gazette, 28 May, 1794.)

FROM GEORGE HAMMOND TO EDMUND RANDOLPH.

PHILADELPHIA, May 22, 1794.

Sir:

In answer of your letter of the 20th current, which I did not receive till late in the afternoon of yesterday, it is necessary for me to premise that, whatever may be my personal opinion, with respect to the style and manner in which you have thought proper to address me, upon the present occasion, it is not my intention to offer any animadversion upon them, but to proceed with temper and candour to the examination of the subject of your letter.

Though I never can acknowledge the right of this Government to require from me so categorically, as you have required it, an explanation of any measure emanating from the Governor of Canada, over whose actions I have no controul, and for whose conduct I am not responsible; I am willing to admit the authenticity of the speech to certain Indian Nations, to which you have alluded, and which you have ascribed to the Governor General of his Majesty's possessions in North America. But in order to ascertain the precise sense of the only passage of that speech, to which you have referred, and to which you have given merely a partial citation, I shall quote the passage at length.

"Brethren:

"Since my return, I find no appearance of a line remains, and from the manner "in which the people of the States push on, and act, and talk on this side, and from "what I learn of their conduct towards the sea, I shall not be surprised, if we are "at war with them in the course of the present year; and if so, a line must be drawn "by the Warriors."—From the context of this whole passage, it is manifest that Lord Dorchester was persuaded, that the aggression which might eventually lead to a state of hostility, had proceeded from the United States; and so far as the State of Vermont, to which I presume his Lordship principally alluded, was implicated, I am convinced that that persuasion was not ill founded. For notwithstanding the positive assurances, which I received from your predecessor on the 9th of July, 1792, in answer to my letter of the 5th of the same month, of the determination of the General Government to discourage and repress the encroachments, which the State and individuals of Vermont had committed on the territory occupied by his Majesty's garrisons, I assert with confidence, that not only

¹ The following statement was published in the Gazette of the United States of 23 May, 1794, probably "by authority":—"It is reported that the British Minister here has received notice from our Government that General Wayne should have orders to oppose any armed force of whatever nation he might fall in with in his expedition. These orders, it is said, are to be given in confidence of the truth of the account that Governor Simcoe has marched three companies into our territory. This warning is a piece of courtesy, which might well be omitted, at least towards a nation whose orders to plunder us were studiously kept secret."

those encroachments have never been in any manner repressed, but that recent infringements in that quarter, and on the territory in its vicinity, have been committed. Indeed, if this assertion of mine could require any corroboration, I would remark, that though the space of fifty days elapsed between my letter of the 10th of March, 1794, upon this subject, and your answer, of the 29th April, 1794, you did not attempt to deny the facts which I then stated and which I now explicitly repeat.

In regard to your Declaration that "Governor Simcoe has gone to the foot of "the rapids of the Miami, followed by three companies of a British regiment, in "order to build a fort there" I have no intelligence that such an event has actually occurred. But even admitting your information to be accurate, much will depend on the place, on which you assert, that the fort is intended to be erected, and whether it be for the purpose of protecting subjects of his Majesty residing in the districts dependent on the Fort of Detroit, or preventing that fortress from being *strained* by the approach of the American Army; to either of which cases I imagine that the principle of the status quo, until the final arrangements of the points in discussion between the two countries shall be concluded, will strictly apply. In order, however, to correct any inaccurate information you may have received, or to avoid any ambiguity relative to this circumstance, I shall immediately transmit copies of your letter, and of this answer, as well to the Governor General of his Majesty's possessions in North America, and the Governor of Upper Canada, as to his Majesty's Ministers in England, for their respective information.

Before I conclude this letter, I must be permitted to observe, that I have confined to the unrepressed and continued aggressions of the State of Vermont, alone, the persuasion of Lord Dorchester, that they were indicative of an existing hostile disposition in the United States against Great Britain, and might ultimately produce an actual state of war on their part. If I had been desirous of recurring to other sources of disquietude, I might from the allusion of his Lordship to the conduct of this Government towards "The sea," have deduced other motives of apprehension, on which, from the solicitude you evince to establish a "contrast between the temper observed on your part towards us, and on our part towards you," I might have conceived myself justified in dilating. I might have adverted to the privateers originally fitted out at Charleston, at the commencement of the present hostilities, and which were allowed to depart from that port, not only with the consent, but under the express permission of the Governor of South Carolina.

I might have adverted to the prizes made by those privateers, of which the legality was in some measure admitted, by the refusal of this Government to restore such as were made antecedently to the 5th of June, 1793. I might have adverted to the permission granted by this Government to the Commanders of the French ships of war, and of privateers, to dispose of their prizes by sale, in ports of the United States. I might have adverted to the two privateers, le Petit Democrat (now la Cornelia) and le Carmagnol, both of which were illegally fitted out in the river Delaware, and which in consequence of my remonstrances, and of the assurances I received, I concluded would have been dismantled; but which have remained during the whole winter in the port of New-York armed, and now are, as I am informed, in a condition to proceed immediately to sea. I might have adverted to the conduct which this Government has observed towards the Powers combined against France in the enforcement of the embargo. For while the vessels of the former are subject to the restrictions of that measure, those three weeks had elapsed subsequently to the imposition of the embargo, though they were chiefly laden with articles, "calculated to support an enemy whom we are seeking

to bring to peace." I might have adverted to the uniformly unfriendly treatment which his Majesty's ships of war, and Officers in his Majesty's service have since the commencement of the present hostilities experienced in the American ports; and lastly, I might have adverted to the unparalleled insult, which has been recently offered at Newport, Rhode Island, (not by a lawless collection of the people) but by the Governor and Council of the State, to the British flag, in the violent measures pursued towards his Majesty's sloop of war Nautilus, and the forcible detention of the Officers by whom she was commanded. I have, however, forborne to expatiate upon these points, because I am not disposed to consider them, as I have before stated, as necessary elucidations of the immediate object of your letter, and much less to urge them in their present form, as general topics of recrimination. I have the honor to be,

With the greatest respect, Sir, your most obedient humble servant.

GEORGE HAMMOND.¹

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, May 20th, 1794.

My Dear Sir:

Early this morning the "Ottawa" arrived here after landing at the mouth of the Miamis Bay Lieut. Pilkington and his artificers. Nothing has occurred since my letter to you yesterday. The "Nancy" has been delayed to give the merchants an opportunity of answering the letters they received by the "Ottawa." The "Chippawa" is under orders for Fort Erie, and will sail early on Sunday morning when I will again write to you.

I hear McKee is detained by contrary winds at the mouth of this river, but is determined to proceed with oars this night, if the wind is not favorable, perhaps the arrival of the "Ottawa" and the expectation of letters by her assisted his delay. You have of course heard of his late appointment and commission. Lord Dorchester's Military Secretary writes to me saying that His Lordship hopes measures are taken to establish the Post on the Miamis, that he directed in his letter to you. The Cannon ordered by Your Excellency for that Post will be sent whenever Lieut. Pilkington or Lieut. Abye says Turtle Island is in a situation to receive them previous to their removal up to the Fort.

In consequence of the number of artificers brought by Lieut. Pilkington, I propose sending on Sunday next a fresh supply of provisions, and will probably try on that occasion, the large gun-boat, taking out her gun for the trip.

¹ Hammond, George, 1763-1853, matriculated at Oxford, 16th March, 1783. He accompanied David Hartley to Paris as his Secretary, in which office he showed much ability and he acquired an intimate knowledge of the French language. He received the degree of B.A. in 1784, was elected a Fellow of Merton College in 1787, and became an M.A. in 1788. In the same year he was made British chargé d'affaires at Vienna where he remained until September 1790, when he was transferred to Copenhagen and before the end of that year to Madrid. In August, 1791, at the age of twenty-eight, he was appointed the first British Minister plenipotentiary to the United States. In 1793, he was married to a lady of Philadelphia, the daughter of Andrew Allen, a noted loyalist. Notwithstanding the controversies in which they were engaged, both Thomas Jefferson and his successor as Secretary of State, Edmund Randolph, spoke well of him. He was obliged to spend his honeymoon in strenuous efforts to obtain an assurance from the cabinet of the United States that the sale of arms and ammunition would not be permitted to the French republic as long as war with Great Britain continued. In 1795, he was appointed Under Secretary of Foreign Affairs and became very intimate with Lord Grenville and George Canning by whom he was highly esteemed.

I shall dispatch on Sunday a cargo of Deserters and Prisoners, and shall reserve another cargo for the next opportunity, not willing to send too many in one vessel, a list descriptive of their character, country, &c., &c., shall be sent to you by each vessel.

I am astonished at the wonderful success of the French, and see no probability of a man being spared for this country as a reinforcement.

Lieut. Adye has been here for some articles he required, and is this day returned to the Miamis. He does not report the loghouse at Turtle Island in forwardness, but I suppose it now soon will be with the powerful assistance Lieut. Pilkington has with him. The Rapids here being considered as secondary objects go on but slowly.

I am, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency Lieut. Gov. Simcoe, &c., &c.

FROM RICHARD PORTER TO THOMAS TALBOT.

KINGSTON, May 21st, 1794.

Sir:

Though I make no doubt Captain Schoedde will do it *officially* and perhaps may have already done it, I nevertheless think it my duty through you to inform H. E. the Governor that an Armed Banditti, well found in arms and ammunition, have assembled themselves about the Salt Springs above Fort Ontario, with a design to intercept all boats coming from the United States to this Quarter. They have already seized Captain Walton and his cargo, who was on his way to Niagara. This information I had yesterday from four batteaux from the States, some new comers and some old settlers of the Bay of Quinti and Oswegatchie. These people they suffered to pass, having nothing worth plunder. However one of the men told me that they took from them the greater part of their provisions.

I have the honor to be, &c.

RICHARD PORTER.

Captain 60th Reg't., Commanding.

T. Talbot, Esq.

FROM ALEXANDER McKEE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

MOUTH OF THE DETROIT RIVER, May 22nd, 1794.

Sir:

I received by an Indian this morning some letters from the Glaize and Rapids, amongst which is a Speech from the Nations of the former place, together with the information of a Deserter, both of which are herewith enclosed.

His account differs so widely from General Wilkinson's letter, as well as the Prisoner Evan's information that there is reason to suspect that the greater part of what he says is false, although I am informed he offers to give his oath of the truth of it.

With respect, I am, &c.,

A. McKEE.

Lt. Col. England.

FROM THE MERCHANTS OF DETROIT TO R. G. ENGLAND.

The Subscribers trading to the South West of Detroit and in the neighbourhood of the present disputed Indian Territory being solicitous for the preservation of their trade and foreseeing in the event of a war the most gloomy and alarming prospects both to themselves and correspondents, beg leave with the utmost deference and respect to suggest a measure which by combining the important objects of commerce and defence, promise fair to preserve and re-establish the trade of the Western District and may under proper regulations contribute to the defence of the Country.

The plan proposed has for its basis the establishment of Armed Trading Posts to be erected by the Subscribers and garrisoned by them, their Traders and Engagés under the protection and control of Government, in situations the most eligible for defence, conferring at the same time on such persons as embark in the enterprise, a qualified exclusive trade to such Posts and their dependencies.

To men acquainted with Indian affairs, with the complexion of the Indian character, and with the restless disposition and rooted enmity of their American Neighbours, a detail of the arguments in favor of this measure would be presumptuous for under the pressure of such unpropitious circumstances no trade can be secure, and during the period of open hostilities it can only be protected by some institution of this nature.

According to the present system the trade is in fact holding out a premium to Freebooters and others to commit inroads and depredations. Several instances of this kind have already occurred, the consequence of which is much private misfortune and a general langour of a trade susceptible of much improvement and extension.

The subscribers therefore influenced by the desire of preserving their trade and contributing to the defence of the Country, cherish a hope that the trade with the different Indian Tribes, more especially with those living in a frontier situation, will become an object of enquiry and regulation.

Under the pressure of the moment they cannot suggest any mode more beneficial than the following which is most humbly submitted to the consideration of Government.

1st. The Subscribers engage that they will erect Stockades at Sandusky, Glaize and at the ancient Miami Villages situated between the Wabash and the Miami River of Lake Erie at their own proper expence.

2nd. That they will garrison these Posts partly with themselves, their traders and engagés, in number not less than three Companies of Militia to be distributed among the respective Posts as the emergencies of Government may require.

3rd. That they will be subject to the orders and control of Government both in the economy of their service, and in the general system of their trade.

4th. That they will furnish each Post with Fire Arms and Ammunition, pieces of Ordnance excepted.

5th. That in order to dispel every idea of monopoly or exclusion they will admit all mercantile men settled in the Western District, who have not at present had an opportunity to join in the undertaking to become their associates, provided they be approved of by Government and that they join before the expiration of one month after the confirmation of this institution.

6th. That they will be responsible that the conduct and behavior of their traders and Engagés in their intercourse with the Indians shall correspond with the Intentions of Government.

PROVIDED

1st. That Government as some recompense for the disbursements necessarily to be incurred will secure to the Subscribers under the modifications of the foregoing fifth article the whole and entire trade of the said Posts of Sandusky, Glaize and Miami and their dependencies and that for the term and during the course of six years.

2nd. That their Traders and Engagés serving in the said Posts shall be entitled to pay and rations during the period of hostilities.

3rd. That the choice of Officers shall belong to the Association but the officers so chosen shall be approved of by Government and in their respective Posts shall rank as the Militia Officers of Upper Canada.

4th. That services in this capacity both for the Subscribers, their Traders and Engagés, shall be considered during hostilities as their quantum of service due as Militia men.

5th. That Government form a code of Laws for the military discipline of the Posts; that they also give a Flag and acknowledge the Subscribers as acting under their authority and protection.

6th. That if possible an Indian Agent or Interpreter reside at the said important Post of Miami for the Purpose of transacting the business of Government with the different Indian Tribes.

That whatever circumstances remain unprovided for within the meaning of these stipulations shall be treated with equity and reciprocal justice.

J. BABY.

GEO. LEITH & Co.

JAS. McDONNELL.

JOHN MCGREGOR.

JOHN MARTIN.

T. LASELLE.

JOHN ASKIN.

GEO. SHARP.

Detroit, May 23, 1794.

COPY OF A LETTER FROM GENERAL WILKINS TO COLONEL
C. BIDDLE, DATED PITTSBURGH, 23rd MAY, 1794.

I this moment received yours of the 17th inst. I arrived about fifteen minutes ago from Le Boeuf and left the detachment there well covered and in good spirits. They have built under my directions two small blockhouses, picketted in, which I think will render them sufficiently strong until the reinforcement goes under Capt. Denny.

The Indians I have conversed with still continue of the opinion that the British will make an opposition to the establishment at Presque Isle. There arrived at Cussewago, when I was there, an Indian from Sandusky where he had been left by the Senecas last Fall sick:—he says the Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada, McKee and Elliot the Indian agent (the last two refugees from this country) were visiting all the Indian towns in that quarter and exciting them there to continue their opposition to the Americans, and assuring them of support from their *Father*, the British monarch. He further adds, they were preparing for fighting Gen. Wayne the moment he moved; and that the British were erecting garrisons at the Miami River. He confirms the accounts of the other Indians that they were determined to oppose the establishment at Presque Isle.

(Printed in the Gazette of the United States of Philadelphia, 3 June, 1794.)

THE SIMCOE PAPERS

FROM JOHN ASKIN TO R. G. ENGLAND.

DETROIT, May 24th, 1794.

Sir:

In compliance with His Excellency Governor Simcoe's wish I now enclose to you the proposals of such of the Merchants of this place as choose to join in the association for the defence of the Country and trade to the Miamis and Sandusky Country. At the same time please observe that many more now being absent there is a clause inserted to admit them in future so that no person may have cause to complain and I presume when all have signed that the number of principals will be from twelve to fifteen.

I have the honor of being, &c.

JOHN ASKIN.

Lieut. Colonel England, 24th Regiment. Commanding Detroit and its Dependencies.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, May 24th, 1794.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith a Plan delivered to me by Mr. Askin for a number of associated merchants here, forming armed Posts on the Miamis and at Sandusky, with Mr. Askin's letter to me on the subject, the whole of which is submitted to you for your approbation. When the Plan was first presented to me I conceived there were some articles objectionable, which I recommended to them to have withdrawn, and which I find they have agreed to. How many there are yet will be decided by you.

I have the honor to be, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency Lieutenant Governor Simcoe.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, May 24th, 1794.

My dear Sir:

I trust I am too well known to you to imagine for a moment that I would throw a difficulty in any plan formed by you, but finding by your private letter of the 16th Inst. that you propose taking another Detachment of the Regiment from here, I think it right to send you an exact state of our strength here, by which you will perceive that we are reduced to 149 Privates, out of which I must furnish the Ottawa with Marines, and perhaps the Dunmore. After all those deductions you will judge if the Post and stores are safe among people that I really have not confidence in. Thus far I conceive it my duty to mention to you, not wishing, as I before said, to impede, but inclined with the most serious disposition to promote whatever is proposed by you.

I am, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

All the Officers' servants are included in the 149.

R.E.

Lt. Govr. Simcoe.

SPEECH FROM THE WESTERN INDIANS.

GLAIZE, 24th May, 1794.

To our Uncles the Hurons, our Grand Children the Chippeways, Ottawas, & Potawatimies & Our Father the English.

You have always told us to sit still & keep a good outlook towards the Americans.

We Delawares speak for the three Nations here. We have been out to see them & think they are strong & well provided with every thing.

We have seen them beyond Fort Hamilton & had taken a woman who told us there were 600 militia coming up behind them & the number of Foot she could not tell, but the light horse coming upon us we were obliged to kill her & had not time to ask her any more questions.

This we tell you as certain.

Father.

Our young men who were in that action have come home naked & their horns empty, make haste & give them cloathing, Ammunition, Knives, Tomahawks, Flints & Guns. Do not say you have not got them, give them immediately what warriors make use of against their enemy. When the Shawanoes sent down last spring, we, Delawares of the Glaize got none, only Bukangilas's Village got two Kegs. As we are a good deal scared & afraid to leave the place we wish you would put it into Canoes & send it to us by some of your men.

Father.

When you filled the Pipe of the three Nations you told them you would rise & go along with us; make haste then & get up & bring your children along with you, as we expect they are all now collected at Greenville. It is now ten days since the above action happened.

Father and Uncles.

You told us that when we saw the Enemy moving forward that one of ourselves should go & let you know. We send you two of our Warriors, one who was in the Action, the Beaver & Pokelin.

In the American Army are all kind of Fighting men, Light Horse, Foot, Militia, &ca.

We let you know also that all our young men who were a hunting are now at home.

BUKANGEHILAS.

CHINGPOUCHIS.

TETUBACHKUTCHY.

POKALIN.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM MR. THOMAS DUGGAN, DATED
DETROIT, 24TH MAY, 1794.

Since my last to you all that I have learned is that Wayne according to report is building another Fort on this side Fort Recovery, and that the stores & provisions for his Army are forwarded by the big Miamis River. Blue Jacket, a Shawanoe Chief, came here two days ago from the Glaize and says some of their Spies arrived

there just before he came away, that they saw great numbers of Boats with troops going down the Ohio, and suppose they are going against the Spaniards; The Indians seem to be unanimous and determined to defend their Country, particularly since the Detachment of the 24th went to the Miamis River, the Fort I mentioned in my last letter is building below the Rapids. There are now several Bands of Chippewas and Ottawas here who are on their way to the Miamis Rapids.

I remain, &c.

THOS. DUGGAN.

P.S. Captain Elliott is just arrived, he says he heard Nothing of Wayne's building a Fort on this side of Fort Recovery, it is imagined the Boats that were seen going down the Ohio with American Troops were commanded by Clark.¹

FROM C. T. A. SCHOEDDE TO J. G. SIMCOE.

FORT ONTARIO, 25th May, 1794.

Sir:

I have little intercourse with the Genesee people. One Danford, Jr. (Captain of Militia) with 28 lawless ruffians interrupts all communication. Valkenberg, an inhabitant at the Falls who gave me intelligence, has been obliged to fly to this place for refuge, and he expects to hear that all his property has been seized. Those vagabonds are about the Garrison in the bushes; their firelocks are new arms sent up this winter. As the preservation of this Post is my principal duty, I do not attempt to hunt after them, but if they offer to come on the plains I will certainly disperse them.

There is one De Wit, a man of some influence and property in Onondago County to whom I have intimated that those proceedings of Danford's may bring serious consequences upon all the settlers, and that it behooved him to interfere; that all the persons concerned were men without property, and probably hired by a set in New York who have no hopes of ever being worth a farthing unless they can bring on a war with Great Britain and fish in troubled waters; that the back settlers can never benefit by it, and that if a war did take place their possessions would in a great measure lay at the mercy of the Indians, at present restrained by our good offices.

He has sent word that himself and one Lammas (who have about fifty people at work) intend to remain quiet, and that they will not let their men join Danford's party, and that they hope that their own Government will bring those Algerine Pirates, as they call them, to an account.

I have the honor to remain, &c.

C. T. A. SCHOEDDE.

His Excellency, Lt. Govr. Simcoe.

¹George Rogers Clark.

FROM ROBERT HAMILTON TO E. B. LITTLEHALES.

It being thought eligible that a portion of the Militia of the Home District of Upper Canada should be made acquainted with the use of Artillery, the following thoughts on the plan for most easily effecting this are humbly laid before His Excellency the Governor.

That a Battalion be raised separate from and independent of the present Militia.

That this shall consist of Volunteers, but who, when entered into this Corps, shall be bound by the regulations made by the Officers thereof, nor shall any person have liberty to leave the Corps during at least the present prospect of disturbance, without full permission.

That as many of the officers and men of the Corps shall be mounted on horses, as is possible, to render their motions expeditious and alert, the men not mounted to be more particularly attached to the guns.

To render the Corps respectable they shall adopt a plain cheap uniform, and be known by the name of the Cavalry Artillery.

That the Battalion shall first consist of four Companies along the Niagara river, the station of the first, Newark, second, Queenston, third, Fort Welland,¹ fourth, Fort Erie.

That the Companies shall consist of thirty men each under a Captain and two Subalterns.

That as soon as formed, they shall meet for the first month twice a week, to learn under an artilleryman, something of the management of great guns, and regularly as often afterwards as their officers shall think proper or necessary, not exceeding one day a week.

That when fit to undertake it every Company shall be entrusted with the management of a field piece for the purpose of exercise, the Captain being security that this shall not meet with wilful harm.

That the Corps when it may be practicable or necessary may also learn the use of artillery on the water.

The above outlines of a plan for effecting this very desirable means of defence is most respectfully submitted to the correction of his Excellency the Governor.

by his most obedient and most humble servant.

R. HAMILTON.

Queenston, May 25th, 1794.

MESSAGE DELIVERED BY TWO DELAWARE CHIEFS WHO ARRIVED
AT THE FOOT OF THE RAPIDS WITH SIX SCALPS FROM THE
GLAIZE THIS 25TH DAY OF MAY, 1794.

Father and Brethren:

We are sent by three fires at the Glaize to inform you that twelve days ago my companion who now sits by me, and who headed a party of thirty Delawares and Shawanese, discovered a large Force upon its march between Forts Washington and Hamilton, and had two actions with them, in which a great number of our enemies were killed. Part of their flesh we have brought here with us to convince

¹ At Chippawa.

our friends of the truth of their now being in great Force on their march against us.

Therefore, father, we desire you to be strong, and bid your children make haste to our assistance, as was promised by them. We have been constantly calling upon them all this spring to collect here to oppose this Enemy, but hitherto to no purpose. We think if you, Father, could rise yourself, and lead them by the hand, it would give them spirit, and we might depend upon their assistance.

They should not put off the time, for a few days will now decide either for or against us, therefore bid them to be strong and repair without any delay to our assistance. You, Father, must make haste and bring us such supplies as are necessary for us in our present situation, therefore make no excuses that you have not got it. Time is urgent and no more words are necessary to convince you of our critical situation and the importance of our affairs.

Delivered six scalps to be distributed among the different Nations.

A. McKEE, S.I.A.

FROM ROBERT HAMILTON TO JOHN PORTEOUS.

Dear Sir:

I have received several of your late favors which my present time will not permit me to Reply. I, however, with you most sincerely deprecate a war between Britain and America as an Event that both parties must essentially lose by, and neither so far as I can judge have the least chance of gain.

I remain, &c.

R. HAMILTON.

Queenston, May 28th, 1794.

(Printed in Vol. VI of the Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, pp. 91-2.)

FROM EDWARD THORNTON TO JAMES BLAND BURGESS.

PHILADELPHIA, May 27th, 1794.

My dearest Sir:

I presume that I shall very shortly resume my post. I cannot say that I look forward to this period with particular satisfaction; as, since the present causes of dispute have arisen between Great Britain and this country, the *general* malignity against the British name is so much increased when concentrated and pointed against a known Englishman, especially if he has any public employment, that a residence in any part of the country is become extremely unpleasant. At Baltimore solitude or insult is almost my only alternative. In that town since I left it, the most violent outrages have been committed against persons accused of being friends to Great Britain, and I enclose you a handbill which, after one of these riots, the Chief Justice of Maryland (Samuel Chase) found himself obliged to circulate in order to insure from the orderly part of the community protection to his own person in the exercise of his duty. Captain Braithwaite, whom I find to be an intimate friend of yours, my dear sir, and who appears to have very superior talents, can relate to you very particularly the nature of the temper which actuates the people of that part of the country, as he has passed through the most inflammatory portions of it (an absolute ordeal), and I believe was actually in Baltimore at the time of the above riot. Whatever may be the termination of the present dis-

putes between the two countries, some most important lessons have been given in the course of them as to the nature and extent of her commercial connections with this continent. Our merchants must hereafter in their accounts of profit and loss calculate the risk of a confiscation of their debts in a given period of years, in the same manner as a West India planter looks forward to a hurricane; and I would beg them to reflect whether a less extensive but *certain* trade (or at least with very little danger of loss and none of confiscation, which is by no means impracticable) be not preferable to one which, though it may produce considerable profits, may encounter a tempest which may sweep off the whole at once. The other lesson which respects the West Indies is a still more momentous one. The late embargo on vessels in the United States has discovered a spirit of refined hostility (which has happily been harmless in the present instance, but) which may one day operate most fatally to the colonies in the West Indies and to Great Britain. If they continue to look to the United States *alone* as the source of supply for the necessities of life (I mean flour and Indian meal), let them beware of any period of national calamity in Great Britain. Whenever that moment shall occur, let but any motive of pique, or caprice, or hostility, or even a commercial speculation actuate the people of this country, and the *sudden* suspension of their supplies will plunge the West Indies in distress, if not in ruin. While the States are the only source of supply the suspension *can* be *sudden* and must be effectual, and I beg to observe that it can only be so by being unexpected. I am therefore of opinion, my dear sir, that it is the duty and interest of Great Britain to seek out one or many other markets for the West Indies, even at an additional expense to those islands. Let the United States have a share in that trade if necessary; but do not let us encourage a *monopoly* which can never be advantageous to us and may be the instrument of our destruction.

EDWARD THORNTON.¹

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO J. G. SIMCOE.

QUEBEC, 29th May, 1794.

Sir:

On Sunday morning last the Rev. Doctor Mountain, Bishop of Quebec sent to me two Mandamus, directing letters patent to be issued under the great seals of the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, advancing him to the title and dignity of Lord Bishop, and further directing him to be appointed to the Legislative Council of the said Provinces.

In compliance with His Majesty's commands, I have given the necessary orders as far as concerns Lower Canada, but not having the Great Seal of Upper Canada, I enclose you the Mandamus relative to that Province as sent to me having received no other notice or intimation respecting the same.

I have received a letter from Mr. King, stating that Mr. Dundas had directed him to inform me that His Majesty had been pleased to appoint Mr. Osgoode to be Chief Justice of Lower Canada, in the room of the late Chief Justice Smith. As the situation of this Province is exceedingly critical, and I may say seditious, Mr. Osgoode's presence is of importance, and therefore I hope to see him here as soon as possible.

I am with regard, Sir, &c.

DORCHESTER.

J. G. Simcoe, Esq., Lt. Govr.

¹ Secretary to George Hammond.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, May 29th, 1794.

Sir:

Since my letter to your Excellency of the 24th Inst. by the Chippawa, I received by Express from Colonel McKee a letter accompanied with a Speech to him, copies of which I have the honor herewith to enclose to you.

Immediately on my receiving them, I directed Captain Elliott to use every means in his power to expedite all the Indians in the neighbourhood of this Fort to the Glaize, and by advertisement *requested* that the public at large would not sell rum to the Indians for three days, which they have in general cheerfully attended to, except *Sally Ainse*,¹ who availed herself of the general prohibition, and privately disposed of a sufficient quantity to keep an entire Band drunk.

I drew my request to the public on a desire from the Chiefs to hold a Council in consequence of a message received from their brothers at the Glaize, and so far succeeded as to send away several this morning, and the rest have promised to set out early to-morrow. There has been within these few days nearly five hundred Indians collected here. The usual presents have been given to them to induce them to send home their families, and as I am informed not more than a hundred and fifty of the above number will go, or are proper to go to the assistance of their brethren.

By Colonel McKee's letter the attack made by the Indians was spirited, but as they threw away their firearms when they rushed forward with their tomahawks, and were afterwards beaten back by numbers, and obliged to leave their arms, the Americans will call it a Victory, which will serve to encourage their Army, and endeavour to injure the reputation of the Indians in battle.

Some of the scalps arrived here and were immediately passed along to the other Lake Indians. By a Letter from Captain Steel I find he has got both of the Deserters formerly mentioned to Your Excellency, and only waited a good opportunity to send them in, therefore expect them by the return of the Gun Boat, which I hope will arrive in time to send them by the Ottawa, who now only waits in expectation of my hearing something further worth communicating to you.

I have directed several batteaux made, which I shall hope your sanction for. There are not any at this Post at present, and I fear they will not be finished as expeditiously as I could wish, the Artificers being still employed on the Dunmore and Felicity but I shall take care that they are not idle. They are indispensably necessary, as no expedition can go on without them.

I have the honor to be, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency, Governor Simcoe.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAPT. JOHN DESERONTYON TO
JOSEPH CHEW S.I.A. DATED BAY DE QUINTI 29TH MAY, 1794.

"Brother:

"by the reports in this Place we seem to be on the Eve of a War once more with the States, as the report says they are Preparing to take Oswego & Niagara, we would wish his Lordship was acquainted with our Sentiments, to Put Confidence in

¹Some particulars of this person may be gathered from "Papers and Addresses," Kent Historical Society, V, pp. 92-5, (1921), in a paper entitled "Phases of the Sally Ainse Dispute," by Louis Goulet.

them & Prepare us Strongly to repell them, we would wish some Arms & Ammunition was sent to Mr. Lines for our People. Brother, we shall always be ready to join His Majesty's Arms, therefore would like to be Prepared for so doing—the Americans may soon fall on, Witness last War how soon they took Ticonderoga and their Vicinity to Oswego may make them Play the same game again."

Montreal 16th June 1794.

a True Extract

JOSEPH CHEW, S.I.A.

FROM THOMAS DUGGAN TO JOSEPH CHEW.

DETROIT, 30 May, 1794.

Dear Sir:

I have only time to tell you that a few Indians fell in with a party of Americans between Fort Washington and Hamilton and Brought away forty Scalps, the number of Americans killed is unknown as a party of Horse came up and beat off the Indians, who had only man lost on this occasion.

I remain, &c.

THOS. DUGGAN.

Joseph Chew, Esq'r, Montreal.

FROM ALEXANDER McKEE TO JOSEPH CHEW.

RAPIDS, 30 May, 1794.

Dear Sir:

Since my Letter of the 8th Instant I have the pleasure to acknowledge the Receipt of yours of the 14th, 16th & 20th of April—The Stores at Montreal having neither Guns, Rifles or Vermillion is extremely unfortunate at this very critical period. Vermillion and Tobacco are not yet made good for the last years Requisition and I have been under the necessity of borrowing on that account, all these things are Indispensible and I hope you will be able to make such representations as may authorize the purchase of them at Montreal—where they may be had on moderate Terms.—I feel it my duty also to mention to you the badness of the guns sent to this post—'tis true the Indians take them but 'tis only for the sake of the Lock the barrels are worth nothing and are extremely dangerous from their constant bursting—The Short Rifles which have been sent up for some time are now refused when offered them.

I sincerely hope the Superintendent General will have arrived by the Time this reaches you and that he will endeavour to manage these matters so that in case of a war we may not be in want of the means of carrying it on.

You have inclosed a speech I received a few days ago from the Glaize that containing the latest Intelligence I have of General Wayne's reinforcements and I believe the truth of it may be relied on; The Lake Indians are at length collecting themselves and several small parties have already gone up—The Wyandots I have reason to believe will be here in two or three days, should these nations all join at the Glaize before any General Movement of the American Army—I shall hope His Majesty's Posts in this Quarter may remain in tolerable security. His Excellency Lieut. Governor Simcoe has transmitted to me a copy of the Speech lately made

by the Six Nations at Buffaloe Creek to the American Agent General Chapin; and the Six Nations have also sent Messengers to the Chippawas, Ottawas, Potawatimies and some other nations, and have returned to them a Belt which was intrusted to the Six Nations last Fall in order to accomplish a Peace on the Terms proposed by them: at the same time these Nations are told that Peace could not be obtained and they are now desired to be strong and act as they think proper for their own Interest.

I am, &c.

A. McKEE.

P.S. If His Excellency the Commander in Chief on your Application would be pleased to authorise the purchase of a few dozen Gun Locks of the best kind they would be of infinite service to the Indians at this time. We have not now a Carrot of Tobacco left—and I shall be under the necessity of making a Requisition to the Commanding officer to authorise the purchase of what may be immediately wanted.

A. M.

Joseph Chew Esq.

(FROM THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES, PHILADELPHIA,
30 MAY, 1794).

WHITESTOWN, N.Y. May 14, 1794.

The following may be depended on as fact: some boatmen were proceeding with a boat load of salt and other articles, valued at 60£, from the Onondago salt spring to Niagara. Whilst passing Fort Oswego, a detachment of *British forces*, stationed at that place seized the boat and cargo, and condemned them as a legal prize. The owner of the property seized obtained information that a boat was dispatched from Niagara some time since to Schenectady on the Mohawk River, by the subjects of his Britannic Majesty, for articles to a considerable amount. Exasperated at his usage at Fort Oswego, he raised a party of men, and proceeded to the Three River Point, where they came across the boat belonging to Niagara on its return with a cargo, valued at upwards of three hundred pounds, which they seized upon as a reprisal of the property taken from them at Fort Oswego.

We hear further that the banks of the rivers to the westward are lined with privateers, in wait for boats bound to Niagara and other British settlements, which they are determined to detain, not only as reprisals, but as violations of the embargo laid upon all vessels in the ports and harbors of the United States.

TRUE COPY OF A LETTER FROM CAPTAIN BRANT TO
CORNPLANTER.

MOHAWK VILLAGE, May 30, 1794.

My dear friend,

I have just received your message of invitation to attend a council at Catara-garas, which I am much obliged to you for, but am exceeding sorry to hear of the loss of our friends the Delawares at Venango. I am much alarmed to hear of the

people of the United States being in possession of Presqu'Isle on Lake Erie. My friend, I have every thing fresh in my mind of our last council at Buffaloe Creek, which was agreed upon that all business of any consequence should be done at that place, in which case I cannot think of deviating from it. I do not think the Great Spirit from above would prosper our proceedings if we should undo what we have already done, except there should be a great change in the present situation of affairs. My friend, I would wish that we should consider seriously, that it is certainly best for us to support what we have done a few days ago at our council fire at Buffaloe Creek, in which case I would wish to meet you with the rest of our friends, the Chiefs, in a few days at the above mentioned place, as we have received a message from our brethren, the western Indians, which requires to be delivered there. The bearer of this will deliver you strings of wampum to confirm what I have already said.

From your friend,

JOS. BRANT.

To Captain O'Beal.

N.B. I shall be at Buffaloe Creek in about four days if the weather permits.

(Printed in the New York Daily Gazette, July 1, 1794.)

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM GENERAL WILKINS, DATED PITTSBURGH, MAY 30, 1794.

In my letter to Mr. B[iddle], I mentioned the news in the Indian country. Part is confirmed in another quarter, that of the British fortifying at the Rapids of the Miami, and makes me believe all the information the Indian gave me; he had been taught while he was at Sandusky that the English and Americans were at war, and was astonished that we should be at Le Boeuf with so small a force and undisturbed.

The following is an extract of a letter to me from Mr. R. the d. surveyor of the triangle district, dated Cussawago, 21st May, 1794.

"I have been through the Genesee country and find that there is every industry made by the British, that is in their power to put the Indians on us. There was a council held at Buffaloe Creek, eight days ago by them and runners sent to the western Indians to inform them that there was a garrison building at Presqu' Isle." Mr. R. came through the Genesee country by Buffaloe Creek, thence to Presqu' Isle and over to Le Boeuf.

(Printed in the New York Daily Gazette of June 12, 1794.)

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, June 1st, 1794.

Sir:

The address to your Excellency with rules for forming an independent company here which I have the honor herewith to enclose you, were yesterday presented to me. As it interferes with the Militia arrangement I could not give any further encouragement than to inform those gentlemen that presented it that I would

forward it to you. Many of the young gentlemen that have formed the association could be turned to use, as they are active and I believe spirited but I much doubt if they would at any time muster the number that have signed the address.

Their idea of Provincial rank goes perhaps further than you may consider prudent or proper to promise, but short of that their requests seem moderate provided associations are to be encouraged, and found not to injure the Militia, which is here as yet in a very corrupted state. Should it be considered expedient at any time to call out any part of the Militia I would recommend sending Mr. Baby immediately back as without his presence they cannot be at all formed.

I have the honor to be, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency Lieutenant Governor Simcoe.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, June 2nd, 1794.

My Lord:

I do myself the honor of answering Your Lordship's dispatches No. 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. In respect to Your Lordship's communications in No. 7 and that of No. 8, It seems necessary only for me to observe at present, that such parts of them as relate to the more accurate survey of Kingston and the River St. Lawrence shall be carried into execution so soon as Lieut. Bryce shall think fit to state in what order the works at Niagara are in sufficient forwardness to be left under the care of the Officer he shall select for their completion. Mr. Aitkin, the Deputy Surveyor, is directed to obey Lt. Bryce in regard to the survey. I shall desire Mr. Bryce to transmit to me his remarks, when in compliance with Your Lordship's, I shall submit my observations on this important subject. In regard to the Militia, I have given directions for returns to be transmitted for Your Lordship's information.

They are totally unarmed. I forward for Your Lordship's information such returns as I have already received, and shall make use of the present meeting of the Legislature to acquaint myself more particularly of their disposition and power in conformity with Your Lordship's wishes. In respect to Your Lordship's dispatch No. 9, I beg to inform you that I have appointed Lieut. Fortier. I shall do myself all I can to regulate a system of defence by Gun Boats for the protection of the Province. The expence of fitting out and arming them must of course be paid by Great Britain; possibly the Legislature may entrust the Executive Government with the power of manning them from the Militia. I also propose a light field artillery to be formed from the Militia. Your Lordship, I presume, will consider among the other deficiencies for the defence of this Province, that of this most essential account. I have received no return whatever from the Marine Department at Kingston relative to any instructions Your Lordship has been pleased to give for the building of Gun Boats. &c. I presume those who have the execution of that Branch of the Service think it unnecessary to make any other report than to the Deputy Quarter Master General at Quebec, be that as it may, I shall consult with the Engineer, Lieut. Bryce on the subject of the Gun Boats, and by him transmit such orders as may be necessary, agreeable to Your Lordship's directions.

The Gun Boats in the Chesapeake I well remember; they were well adapted for the purpose of carrying a great many men, as well as the Gun, and in that respect

were suitable for Expeditions. I fear they draw too much water, except for the communications between the Lakes and the River St. Lawrence. There is in the Dockyard at Detroit, sufficient timber for the building of two Gun Boats, exclusive of what is reserved for the twenty Gun ship. I am extremely happy in any mark of Your Lordship's confidence that is shewn to Col. McKee, and in any extension of his power or employment as Deputy Superintendent General. I enclose for Your Lordship's information the report from the Miamis. I respect the former Services of Colonel Butler, and hold in due regard his well founded influence with the Six Nations, but I have too much reason to suppose him incompetent to the direction of the ample means which His Majesty has provided for the management of the Indians, and at present a considerable defalcation appears in the Indian Stores, which upon a more mature enquiry, I shall report to Your Lordship. The People of the States are approaching Presqu' Isle, if they be not already established there, and the present moment seems critical, indeed, in respect to the Indian Interests and the Safety of this Province, as Captain Johnson's journal will sufficiently explain to Your Lordship. Oswego has been for some time surrounded by a lawless Banditti, fomented by Mr. Danforth, and probably by higher authority—Many boats have been plundered, and the King's Subjects forcibly detained by this People.

I transmitted to Mr. Hammond the first authenticated complaint of the kind which came to my knowledge, and I understand that the People who were plundered carried their Complaints to the Governor of New York.

It is universally given out that Oswego is to be attacked; I have removed from thence the Corn and whatever was not useful to the Garrison, but on a report from one of the vessels on the Lake that they heard firing of cannon from that quarter on Thursday last I shall direct Captains Bouchette and Barber to call off that Post, and send Lieut. Brooking, a prudent Officer and five men from this Garrison, to act as circumstances shall direct.

Mr. Williamson, I understand, has threatened to pass by force down the River, and I am told by Mr. Bertzie, the German Agent for Messrs. Pulteneys, &c., &c., who is here to obtain a settlement for the Germans, that the arms now used by the Banditti, of whom I have spoken, were furnished by Williamson. Capt. Schoedde has reported them to be new.

Eighty of the Queen's Rangers are at work at this place, and twenty with Lieut. Pilkington.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

INFORMATION FROM WILLIAM SULLIVAN.

RAPIDS OF THE MIAMIS, 2d June, 1794.

The Following Information of a Deserter was brought to me this day from the Glaize.

He says his name is Wm Sullivan a native of Ireland, that he has served a year in the American Army and Deserted from Fort Greenville seven or eight days ago.

Says that General Wayne's Army is 2000 Effective men, exclusive of 500 in his different Garrisons, that there are about 300 Riflemen in the Army. That 700 of the Kentucky Militia are ready to march under the command of General Scott,

but that neither he nor General Wayne can stir without an order from Congress, and that greater secrecy than was usual is now observed, among all the officers of the Army. It was however, a Camp Report that as soon as the corn was thought sufficiently high, the General was to send a Body of light Horse toward the Indian villages, to cut it down with their swords and destroy it. It was the general opinion in the camp, that a war with Great Britain was inevitable, but he has no knowledge of any war with the Spaniards, altho' he heard that General Clarke¹ had gone down the Ohio with a body of men to treat with the Spaniards but on what business he knew not. He says there were three officers recruiting for the french service in Kentucky this Spring, but it was put a stop to by Congress. That there is about six weeks provisions in the different Garrisons, as he heard the Commissary say. He says further that 17 Chickasaws lately joined their Army, that Wells and May two Spies, with 16 others dress and paint themselves like Indians and were out on a scout when he deserted. That they are paid 40 Dollars for every Indian Scalp, besides a Dollar each pr. day, and one thousand Dollars are offered for the scalp of Simon Girty.² That he heard some time ago, it was the General's intention to fortify at the Glaize, and proceed from thence as far as he could towards Detroit. That they have lately brought their provisions by water, within twenty miles of Fort Greenville, but as the waters are now low he does not think they will be able to bring it so high; that all the parties of Troops that came from Fort Washington, convey what Provisions are ready. That the time of service of the 1st and 2nd Regt. is nearly expired, and they are determined not to reinlist. He further says the duty is extremely hard and the men are punished severely for slight offences.

A. MCKEE, S.I.A.

FROM ALEXANDER MCKEE TO JOSEPH CHEW.

RAPIDS, 3d June, 1794.

Dear Sir:

Having wrote to you fully on the 30th of last Month I have only At Present to inclose the information of another Deserter and to Confirm the report of my last Vizt. that the Indians are Collecting in Considerable Force—As Soon as they all join at the Glaize Which will Probably be in about ten days or a fortnight, I shall take the first opportunity that offers (as indeed I always do whether my letters should be detained or not by the uncertain conveyances I am obliged to make use of) to send you an Account of their Numbers and of the Plans they may Propose

¹ George Rogers Clark, 1752-1818, captured Kaskaskia in Illinois by surprise, 4 July, 1778 and retook Vincennes, 24 Feby.. 1779; destroyed several Indian villages on the Big Miamis, 1782. For the past four years he had been living in retirement and had become a confirmed drunkard. He had offered his services to Genet, the French envoy in the United States, who sent agents to Kentucky with blank commissions to raise troops. One of these was André Michaux, the naturalist. Clark, styling himself "general of the legion of the French Republic," published on January 25, 1794, in *The Centinel of the North West*, a newspaper printed at Cincinnati, his proposals for raising troops, two thousand in number, promising each recruit one thousand acres of land, two thousand if he served a year, and three thousand if he served for two years, besides a full share of all lawful plunder. Michaux was instructed by Genet to raise a force to attack New Orleans and to send an address to the French Canadians to rise and throw off the British yoke.

² An interpreter in the Indian department and formerly an officer in the Militia of Pennsylvania.

before they set out.—General Wayne seems Perfectly in Active at Present and it seems Probable that the reason given by the deserter may be the true one.

I am, &c.

A. McKEE.

Joseph Chew Esqr. &c., &c.

It appears this was wrote the 4th of June.

Mr. Clark¹ arrived about two o'Clock this morning from the Glaize Which Place he left yesterday in the afternoon—Spies who had been to View General Wayne's Army were just returned & reported that a Large Reinforcement of Militia had joined him from Kentucky six days ago and that on their arrival at Fort Greenville there was a great deal of Firing in the Camp which appeared like rejoicing—that an Advanced Part of the army had taken Post some days ago twenty miles on this Side of Fort Recovery Where they have began to Intrench a Camp.

The Chiefs of the Glaize on receiving this intelligence assembled and desired Mr. Clarke to Proceed immediately to this Place and acquaint their Father and Brethren the Hurons of it that they might hurry on the Lake Indians without delay to their assistance being determined to set off with all the force they could collect tomorrow to the fallen Timber² the Place appointed for a General Meeting of their several Nations to oppose this Army.

A. McKEE.

Joseph Chew Esqr. &c., &c.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, June 4th, 1794.

My Dear Sir:

Anxious that you should have the latest intelligence from the Miamis I have directed Captain Cowan who sailed yesterday morning in the *Ottawa* for Fort Erie to come to anchor in case he saw the Gun Boat in the River, to send me his Boat with whatever letters were on Board and to remain at Anchor till he heard from me and at twelve o'clock last night he sent up his Boat with letters. By what Captain Steel and Lieutenant Adye write there is reason to expect the immediate approach of General Wayne, but Colonel McKee only mentions the arrival of some Reinforcements to General Wayne, the particulars he no doubt mentions in a letter to you that I now forward. Should General Wayne advance as seems the general opinion, and Hostilities commence between the United States and Great Britain, you will no doubt recollect our State here, and send such orders as will save the melancholy remains of this Garrison from disgrace.

I am, My dear Sir, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency Lieutenant Governor Simcoe, &c., &c.

Four deserters and prisoners from the Miamis are sent by this opportunity to Fort Erie with a letter to Captain Pratt requesting him to send them to you. As they are still on board the Gun Boat in the River, I don't know either of their names or description but have directed Captain Cowan to send a return of the particulars to you.

R.G.E.

¹ Thomas Alexander Clark, an Interpreter in the Indian department.

² Near Fort Miamis, where the action subsequently was fought on 20 August, 1794.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO ABBE DES JARDINS.

June 4th.

Sir:

It was with some degree of surprise that I had the honor of receiving your letter.

It would always give me pleasure to assist those who have been unfortunate in preferring the conscientious discharge of their duty to personal comfort or safety. I am sorry that in the present instance I cannot possibly be of service to the loyal sufferers of the French Nation.

The answer of Lord Dorchester to a Speech lately delivered by the Seven Nations of Canada as the delegates from a principal part of the Indian American Confederacy cannot possibly in the town from whence you have dated your letter have escaped your notice. Of course you must have learned from that Answer that His Lordship was not inclined to consider the claims of the United States to any right of pre-emption from the Nations in that part where you intimate that you have purchased to be valid, inasmuch as the United States did not perform their part of the Treaty of Peace, on the fulfilment of which the validity of the Treaty necessarily depended.

In this respect it would be impossible for me to send any aid or countenance to the Settlement which you have proposed, but, Sir, had not my Lord Dorchester so recently avowed his sentiments, my duty would not have permitted me to give any assistance to the forming of settlements in a Country which the Six Nations claim as their joint possession, which by no Treaty that I can find has ever been alienated, and which I have long had information has been offered at every market on lease or for sale, under what I know to be a false and flagitious pretence, that their lands had been ceded by the American Indians to the British Government.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Draft unsigned).

To E. Des Jardins, Albany.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO R. G. ENGLAND AND A. McKEE.

NAVY HALL, June 5th, 1794.

Colonels England and McKee.

Sir:

Lord Dorchester's Speech to the Seven Nations of Canada having appeared in an Albany newspaper previously to my having received from His Lordship the official communication which he was pleased to make to me on that subject, I am to request that you will be so good as to inculcate to all Officers in your Department that it is absolutely necessary that they should not only preserve any official documents with which they may be entrusted from being made public, but that as far as in them lies that they should be particularly careful that no intelligence respecting Indian Affairs or those of the United States in your Quarter, should be made known either by writing or by conversation except to His Majesty's confidential Officers duly authorized to receive and forward the same.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Draft unsigned).

Col. McKee.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM FORT FRANKLIN, DATED JUNE 12
(1794).

I must once more inform you of our situation—this day arrived here an express from the Cornplanter, who brought a letter that Brant sent him, reprehending him for suffering the United States to build garrisons at Lake Erie; therefore, it is generally thought that we shall be attacked very shortly. We are very much surprised that the militia is not ordered to relieve us; for it is as much as our lives are worth to attempt coming down. If you have any influence with our leading men, do request them to send relief to our settlement. There has been two spies at Le Boeuf to see the situation of our troops, and the Cornplanter has requested our people not to clear out the old French road, and says that if we do not stop, we shall get too strong before we know what we are about, and other hints that we do not use the Six Nations well.

For God's sake try to hurry the people of your quarter to turn out, as it is not safe for us to step out of doors.

(Printed in the New York Daily Gazette, July 1, 1794.)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

Sir:

I have duly received your letter of the 1st of June enclosing to me the address and resolutions of a number of the inhabitants of Detroit and its environs, relating to their being permitted to associate themselves into a Militia Company.

I beg you to assure them of the great satisfaction with which I receive their sentiments of unalterable attachment to His Majesty and the British Constitution, but I am to observe to them that a provision for the service of all the King's Subjects in this Province in case it shall be necessary to call for their exertions, has been duly made by the Legislature, and is now the Law of the Land.

I receive with due respect and sensibility their personal expressions in regard to me, and at all times shall do my best to promote their happiness and interest.

In regard to yourself it was perfectly right that you gave no encouragement to any proposed arrangement that interfered with the Militia Law, but I must request that in future you will be so good as to express your strongest disapprobation if necessary, of all associations which contain in them such a democratic and unconstitutional principle as that of electing Officers in those instances where the appointment of such Officers is by the British Laws vested in the Executive Government, and more especially in a place of a military tendency.

I am, &c.

To Lieutenant Colonel England.

NAVY HALL, June 14th/94.

(Draft)

REQUISITION FROM ALEXANDER McKEE.

I do recommend for the good of His Majesty's service that the following articles be immediately furnished for the use of the Indians and the Indian Department at this place.

MIAMIS RAPIDS, 8th June, 1794.
CURRY.

Black Wampum.....	Eighty thousand.	
White Wampum.....	Twenty thousand.	£120.0.0.
Horsemen's Tents with Flys.....	Six.	
Oil Cloths.....	Twenty four.	

A. McKEE, S.I.A.

MONTREAL 17th July 1794.

a True Copy, to Which I have Added the price of the Wampum amounting to one hundred & twenty pounds—CURRY.

Dollars at 5/.

JOSEPH CHEW, S.I.A.

INDIAN MESSAGE FROM ALEXANDER McKEE TO JOSEPH CHEW.

GLAIZE 9th June 1794.

At Grey Eyes Town, one of the Upper Villages of the Glaize there are 180 Chippewas & Pottawatamies, who last night heard cannon fired at the fallen Timber, and the Chickasaws came and spied them also last night.

This morning one of each nation went up to see the place where the firing was, they sent to us also this morning, to tell us to gather what we could at the Glaize of the Shawanoes, the Mingoes, the Delawares, and Miamis as they said they imagined the Enemy were on their way against us. We immediately sent them back and told them that as soon as those that were sent to spy came back we would send down two of our own people to the Rapids, to let the Indians know what they had seen.

Brothers & Uncles the Hurons:

You have now heard the news, make haste & come on, and bring all the others along with you. What further news we have we shall let you know from day to day, and let every part as they arrive at the Rapids come forward.

We are to collect immediately to know what we have to do, we may go on to the Upper Villages but we will expect you and all the others as soon as possible.

A. McKEE, S.I.A.

Painted Tobacco.

FROM WILLIAM DOYLE TO JOSEPH CHEW.

MICHILIMACKINAC, 9th June, 1794.

Dear Sir:

I was favoured with your letter of the 18th of last month by Mr. Todd who delivered to me the Articles which you intrusted to his charge which believe me were Very Acceptable, particularly the Vermillion which is in great Demand. I think it proper to Acquaint you for the information of Sir John Johnson that I sent sixty Warriors of the Ottawa Nation and Twenty Five of the Chippewas upon the 29th Ulto to the Miamis having Received orders from Detroit to that Purpose, a Party Consisting of Twenty one belonging to the Grand Sable will set out to-

morrow for the same Place.—I have further to Acquaint you that at the Requisition of Capt. LaMothe I have been under the Necessity of Dismissing Thomas Lusby late Black Smith to the Indian Department from that Situation, the Indians having complained of his beating and otherwise ill treating them—when they did not make him Presents for the Work he was ordered to do. I have appointed Pierre Gravel to that situation, and am happy to add he gives the Indians much satisfaction we are all impatient to hear from Detroit, we hourly Expect a Vessel when I suppose I shall hear from Colonel McKee respecting his appointment.

I beg you will excuse the shortness of my Letter, Indians being this Instant in Council waiting to see me allow me to Assure you that I am &c.

WILLIAM DOYLE.

Joseph Chew Esqr., Secretary I.D. Montreal.

FROM ALEXANDER McKEE TO JOSEPH CHEW.

RAPIDS, 10th June 1794.

Sir:

I wrote you on the 8th Inst and probably this may go by the same conveyance, the inclosed Message was received this Morning, and in consequence thereof the Indians here amounting to about 500 will move up immediately, there is a report that a considerable number are expected from Michilimackinac, but I have not received any account from thence on that subject. If I find in the course of the Summer that I can be spared from this place, I shall consider it my duty to visit that Post, and regulate all matters that may appear necessary for the good of His Majesty's service and comfort of the Indians resorting thither.—

You have also inclosed the further information of Sullivan the Deserter—

I am, &c.

A. McKEE.

FROM ROBERT KERR TO JOSEPH CHEW.

Extract of a Letter from Doctr. Kerr¹ of the Indian Depart. to Joseph Chew Secy of Indian Affairs dated Niagara 10th June 1794 on His Return from New York where he [had] been by Leave of Governor Simcoe.

I Learned from a Gentleman, a Brother Officer of Governor Hamilton, that Governor Clinton has a Person in Montreal that Supplies him with intelligence, in Some Conversation this Gentleman had with Mr. Clinton he told him he did not believe Lord Dorchester's Speech to the Indians was Genuine. Clinton said it Certainly was for he had it from His Correspondent at Montreal who had never deceived yet. I endeavoured to get his Name but Could not.

Mr. Williamson Agent for Mr. Poultney² in the Genesee Purchase is a most Violent Man against Government, has got some 12, 9, & 6 Pounder Brass Cannon from Philadelphia—if an Attempt is Made against Oswego or against the Shipping at Kingston in the Winter he Will have a hand in it.

Montreal 26th June 1794.

a True Extract

JOSEPH CHEW, S.I.A.

¹ Robert Kerr, 1755-1825, hospital mate at Quebec, 13 Sept., 1776; served with General Burgoyne, taken prisoner at Saratoga, 17 Oct., 1777; released and arrived at Halifax, N.S., 1778; surgeon, Royal Regt. of New York, 1779-24 June, 1784; surgeon to the Loyalists in the Upper Country, 24 Oct., 1784; surgeon to the Indian Department at Niagara, 27 Apr., 1788; he married a daughter of Sir William Johnson by Molly Brant.

² Pulteney.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

NIAGARA, UPPER CANADA, June 14th, 1794.

No. 23.

Sir:

I was yesterday honored with your dispatch of the 15th of March, a vessel being at this moment under weigh for Kingston & Captain Fitzgerald of the 5th Regiment being ordered on Recruiting Service, & meaning to proceed to Great Britain without delay, I take the opportunity of transmitting to you the Upper Canada Gazette of the 5th of June.

I do this with peculiar satisfaction as in my Speech, I have anticipated a principal Point of the directions of your last dispatch, in respect to recommending an Improvement of the Militia Bill for the purposes of the defence of the Lakes & Communications.

I believe there will be no opposition to this necessary & self-evident measure, indeed there is none except on the part of Mr. Cartwright to the General Measures of Government, and he has thought fit to give notice that he shall oppose the *Principle* of a Bill brought in by the Chief Justice for the Constitution of the Supreme Courts of Justice; but fortunately the Arrival of Captain Shaw's Mandamus as Legislative Councillor will obviate the effects which the opposition of this Gentleman might have upon less decisive minds.

In a few days, Sir, I shall do myself the honor to transmit an answer to your Dispatch by Captain Talbot, but I was unwilling to lose the Chance of this Gazette getting sooner to your Hands, in particular as Captain Fitzgerald, who is a very respectable young Gentleman is very well informed of the critical situation of this Country.

I have the honor to be with the utmost Respect, Sir,

Your most obedient & most humble servant.

J. GRAVES SIMCOE.

Lt. Govr. of Upper Canada.

Right Honorable Henry Dundas, One of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State.

Endorsed:—Niagara 14th June, 1794. Lt. Govr. Simcoe, R. 25th August. No. 23. Ansd. (One Inclosure)

FROM JOHN BUTLER TO JOSEPH CHEW.

NIAGARA, 14th June 1794.

Dear Sir:

I received your favour of May last, prior to which some time, the Requisition for this Post had gone down & is I hope ere now with you, since then I have had some conversation with His Excellency Colonel Simcoe on the subject, who wishes the contents of it complied with, and forwarded as soon as possible, he also wishes an extra quantity of rum forwarded, say one half as much more as formerly, as from appearances of trouble among us, the Indians are constantly assembling & parties coming & going from this place.

Accounts from Detroit are favourable for the Indians, and State Mr. Wayne and his army to be in a disagreeable situation as report says there are little short of 2000 Indians round him, and before the departure of the last vessel from Detroit, 30 Canoes of Mackinac Indians had arrived. those near Wayne had also cut off a convoy of Provisions and although attacked by a superior number of cavalry, fought their way out and brought 30 scalps into Detroit. Information was brought here, some days ago that the Americans had begun to erect a Fort at La Boeuf, on which Capt. Brant and Obeil¹ with several other chiefs set off to order them away, they have not yet returned, when they do, I'll write you the particulars, then remain

Dear Sir.

Yours sincerely.

JOHN BUTLER.

Joseph Chew Esq., S.I.A.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, 15th June, 1794.

My Lord:

I do myself the honor of enclosing to your Lordship an Upper Canada Gazette, by which you will see that I have strongly endeavoured to impress upon the Legislature of this Province the necessity of attending to the Preservation of the Water Communications & boundaries by an application of the Militia to such purposes.

The Propriety of the measure is so very evident that there can be but little doubt but it will be adopted without opposition.

Indeed there is an Universal Spirit of Loyalty in the Assembly, & no opposition to the general measures of Government, excepting from Mr. Cartwright, who has given notice, that he shall oppose the Principle of the Bill for establishing the Superior Courts of Justice in this Province, which the Chief Justice has thought it proper to introduce. This opposition I am rather inclined to believe springs from the Spirit of vanity & sordidness in the man rather than from any disaffection, tho' from the habit of his Education, He is constantly offering sentiments diametrically opposite to the British Constitution.

In the last year an Intimation from the Agent for the flour contract that He and Mr. Hamilton being subordinately employed in that Branch of the Commissariat, depended upon my approbation, contributed to a very visible change in the language of those Gentlemen. In this Point of view, it is, that I consider the Influence naturally arising from the Commissariat in this Province, will in a few years be indispensably necessary to the carrying on the public measures with facility & tranquility; & as such subordinately to the Commander in Chief, must be vested in the hands of the Person administering the Government of the Province.

I have the honor to be with great Respect your Lordship's
most obedient & most faithful humble Servant,

J. G. SIMCOE.

Right Honorable Lord Dorchester.

Endorsed:—In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No 25. of the 20th June 1794.

¹ Cornplanter.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NIAGARA, June 15th, 1794.

My Lord:

I do myself the honor of enclosing the last advices from Col. England and the Superintendent, Col. McKee. It will appear to Your Lordship that General Wayne's Army is advancing, and that the Indians sometime in May last obtained an advantage over one of his convoys. The Indians still intimate their hopes that their English Father will assist them. Lieut. Col. England in case of Wayne's advance has desired that I will send him such orders as may save the remains of his Garrison from disgrace, and he intimates that he has no confidence in any assistance that he can draw from the Militia, should I, as I have stated may be the case, call for a further detachment from Detroit.

Since the clearing up of a misunderstanding between the Chieftains of the Six Nations, Brant and O'Beal, in respect to a Message which passed from one to the other, I presume from the enclosed extract it is very likely the Six Nations will unite and oppose the United States in taking possession of Presqu' Isle, or if established there, which is doubtful, their remaining on the Communications between it and Fort Franklin. I am much indebted on this and many other occasions to the assistance of Captain Bunbury.

I have thought it proper to acquiesce in Captain Brant's request that I should assist him with a carpenter to build a Log Council House for the Mohawks, as had been promised by General Haldimand. I also mean to construct a pettyauger for the service of the Grand River, occasionally to carry a six pounder, and to be manned by the white Inhabitants who live at that place.

The People in the Geneseees have stopped some other passengers at the Three River Point, they work about Oswego, but no attack on that place as yet seems to be seriously intended.

The firing reported to have been heard by Captain Baker and his crew, on Lieut. Brooking's arrival at Oswego, he found to be imaginary.

Capt. Schoedde, commanding at Oswego, has requested some Indians may be attached to his Post. I recommend this desire to Your Lordship's consideration, being inclined to think that an expence of this nature, incurred under the management of Mr. Price, the Interpreter, may be of serious public utility.

I enclose for Your Lordship's perusal, letters which have lately passed between me and the Abbé Des Jardins, and one¹ on my part, which closed the correspondence that I held with that Gentleman and Mr. de la Corne, when they left this Province the last year, and which in a summary manner may serve to explain to Your Lordship the transactions between this Country and those Agents.

I have consulted with Mr. Munro, respecting the timber cut at Oswegatchie, and I find from him that the King's Subjects, in particular of Lower Canada, agree with the Indians for the purchase of timber from the Lands possessed by these People, faithfully pay to them the Price contracted for, and carry it down to Montreal. It appears therefore to me neither practicable nor expedient to prevent this traffic.

I am sorry to learn the disaffection of the St. Regis and the Caghnawaga Indians from the British Interests is universally credited by the Gentlemen who reside in the neighbourhood. I have pressed the Six Nations to send them a Message and to remind them of their promised assistance. Captn. Brant says the Message must be a harsh one.

¹ See p. 260.

I enclose for Your Lordship's perusal the proceedings of the Court which was directed to enquire into the state of the Indian Store. Mr. Sheehan, the Store-keeper, has been some time in the States, where I gave him permission to go on an urgent family business, and from thence he is daily expected to return. I shall immediately forward the explanation he shall give of his deficiency for Your Lordship's consideration.

In the mean time, I beg that you will be pleased to direct such a supply of Indian Goods for this Post as at this very critical period it seems most particularly to require.

It is believed that the People of the United States have already collected anchors and a considerable quantity of cordage for the purpose of building craft at Le Boeuf, on the road to Presqu'Isle.

Under these circumstances, I wait with some anxiety for Your Lordship's decision on the proceedings and approach of the United States to the Lakes in this most important quarter, which necessarily in their result, should General Wayne establish himself on the Miamis River, will involve those considerations which I submitted to Major General Clarke, when Your Lordship was hourly expected, and which were obviously intended for your determination whenever you should arrive at Quebec.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble Lord Dorchester.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, 15th June, 1794.

My Lord:

I beg leave to enclose an extract of a letter from Lieut. Col. England, Commanding at Detroit, to Lieut. Smith, Asst. Dy. Qr. Master General.

I approved of the Batteaux he represented he had been obliged to have built, and I have authorized a Bounty to be given to the Seamen, as mentioned in his letter. It is natural to suppose that if the Troops of the United States possess themselves of Presqu'Isle or any port or Post on the Lake, they will endeavour to occupy all the Harbours on the South Shore of Lake Erie.

I hope Your Lordship will be pleased to order that every material necessary for the construction of such Craft as are intended to be built on either of the Lakes may be sent up as soon as possible.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO ALEXANDER McKEE.

NAVY HALL, June 15th, 1794.

Dear Sir:

I have been duly favored with your communications. I hope the Indians will collect in sufficient numbers to meet their opponents. Brant and O'Beal are probably by this time met at Caterogeras,¹ and seem both determined to oppose the United States establishing any Post at Presque Isle.

I totally disapprove of any person not usually trading to the Indian Country passing the Post at the Miamis. You will be so good as to state this opinion to Captain Stiell, and desire that he will in all cases assist you to prevent such improper conduct, and I beg that he will inform Lieutenant Colonel England that such is my direction. His passport of course will always carry with you its due consideration.

I beg of you to communicate to me in the most speedy manner that you shall think fit all information you may deem of importance, transmitting a duplicate as far as may be necessary to the Commandant at Detroit.

I beg my compliments to Captain Elliott and Mr. Selby and your son. I congratulate you on your late appointment, which I hope will soon be universal.

I am, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Lieut. Governor of Upper Canada.

Colonel McKee.

SPEECH ON THE JUDICATURE BILL, IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,
MONDAY, 16TH JUNE, 1794. BY THE HONOURABLE RICHARD
CARTWRIGHT.

There is no measure more incontestable in politics than that a government should be formed for a country, and not a country strained and distorted for the accommodation of a preconceived or speculative scheme of government; that in all the several departments of it, it should be calculated for performing the business of the department in a manner the least tedious and embarrassing to the public, rather than for conferring splendour and emolument upon individuals. This is a principle that every man who is called to the important business of legislation should bear constantly in mind, but more especially so when he comes to deliberate respecting the mode of administering justice, in which every individual is, more or less, immediately interested. And as the British Legislature has left us unrestrained in everything that does not militate with the constitution they have given us, I apprehend we are at perfect liberty, in the present instance, to pursue this principle to its full extent. Since the settlements which were formed in this country after the American War began to acquire any degree of stability, that part of the administration of justice which relates to property and civil rights has been managed by Courts of original and exclusive jurisdiction (subject to the revision of a Court of Appeals) erected in each of the districts into which it has been divided.

¹ Cattaraugus, N.Y. where the Senecas had a large village.

In these Courts every cause might be, and has been, decided with very little expense of time and money to the suitors; how greatly to their satisfaction, let the solitary instance of a single appeal determine. This arrangement was formed under the auspices of a noble Lord who has ever bestowed the most friendly and paternal attention to the welfare of this Province; and though I feel, from the experience of my own personal incapacity, that the Judges who preside in these domestic tribunals as I may without impropriety call them, may in one instance at least be changed with advantage; yet I do not hesitate to affirm that, regard being had to the circumstances of the Province, the constitution of the Courts themselves, can be altered only for the worse. Yet this establishment, so well adapted to the nature of the country, the present Bill is intended totally to overturn, and to erect in its stead a system which, by the expense, delays and embarrassments that must necessarily attend it, will infallibly operate as a denial of justice in nine out of ten, I had almost said ninety-nine out of a hundred cases that our small and uncomplicated affairs are likely to produce. In England, where the system now proposed to us has long obtained, the "law's delay" has been frequently and pathetically declaimed on as one of the great evils of life; yet, in point of size, England is hardly equal to the smallest of our districts; the territory is compact and crowded with an immense population; the intercourse from the centre to the extremities, and from one part to the other, is easy and expeditious; professional men swarm in every quarter; and the City of London, the great emporium of the commercial world, where the Court is fixed, furnishes of itself at least nineteen-twentieths of all the suits in the Kingdom. But let us look around and see if there be in our situation the smallest analogy to this. With a thin population scattered over an immense extent of country, interrupted by inland seas and large tracts of uninhabited lands of from two to three hundred miles in extent, without communication or intercourse for at least five months in the year, with but a single lawyer within the compass of more than seven hundred miles, and where every part is equally barren of intricate or important subjects of litigation;—is there any similarity in the circumstances of the two countries? Can the same judicial arrangements be at all applicable to both? To persist in the attempt to make them so will literally be bringing the mountain to Mahomet; or saying like the famous tyrant of antiquity, "Here is our standard; if we are too long we will lop you, if you are too short we will stretch you to our dimensions." But let us hear Mr. Justice Blackstone, with all the prejudices of a professional man about him, on the subversion of the County Courts in England; for even in England itself, for its infinitely smaller subdivision of counties, the system that now actually obtains in this Province was the original one, and was overturned, not by the calm, deliberate voice of legislation, but by the violence of invasion and conquest. After speaking of other changes that had been attended with the most injurious consequences, he says: "A third alteration in the English law was by narrowing the remedial influence of the County Courts, the great seats of Saxon justice, and extending the original jurisdiction of the King's Justiciars to all kinds of causes arising in all parts of the kingdom. The constitution of this Court, and the Judges themselves who presided there, were brought from the Duchy of Normandy; and instead of the plain and easy method of determining suits in the County Courts, the chicanes and subtleties of Norman jurisprudence were introduced into the King's Courts, to which every cause of consequence was drawn." Here behold the change in contemplation completely anticipated. And if this Bill should pass, our posterity will find some future historian of the colony deploring, in similar language, the pernicious innovation, and reprobating the folly of our ill-judged acquiescence. For most unquestionably it will have the same

effects upon our mode of administering justice that the Norman invasion had upon the English, except that from the great difference of local circumstances already stated, its operation must be proportionably much more injurious. For see it comes with all the *glorious* uncertainties of the law in its train, holding out wealth and distinction to the man of law, but poverty and distress to the unfortunate client. It comes with its multifarious actions of debt, covenant, account, assumpsit, case, trespass, trover and detinue—distinctions without essential difference, running into endless mazes where even the sages of the profession have themselves been frequently bewildered. It comes with all its hydra of demurrers, rejoinders, surrejoinders, rebutters, and surrebutters, and all the monstrous offspring of metaphysical subtlety begotten upon chicane, to swallow up our simple forms and modes of process which are easy to be understood and followed by any man of plain sense and common education. Here let us pause a moment and ask ourselves if this be indeed a desirable change. But admitting—what, however, is not intended—that these technical perplexities might be done away, let us examine simply the consequences that must inevitably result from the constitution of the Court itself. It is to be fixed, if we are to judge what has hitherto been, and what has been talked of as the seat of government, rather in the geographical centre of the colony, than with any attention to its population. The eastern district at least, if not the western, far outnumbers in inhabitants the other districts, and, consequently, are likely to furnish the greatest number of lawsuits; yet the man who has cause of action in the eastern or in the western district must travel from the River Raisin perhaps, or the River Tranche, across Lake Erie, or a hundred miles up the River St. Lawrence and across Lake Ontario, to sue out his process at Newark or York; he must travel back with it, to put it into the hands of the Sheriff of the district whence he came; the process must go back again to the place whence it issued; the defendant must resort thither to put in his pleas, and the plaintiff trudge back again to make his reply. Six months afterwards, it may be nine or twelve months, a Court of Assize may be held in the district where the cause originated, and the issue be tried by a jury if both parties are disposed to come to trial. But the matter ends not here; the plaintiff or defendant, as either may have been so far successful, must the next term go back again and move for judgment, which he will probably obtain, unless he should be opposed by a motion for a new trial, or in arrest of judgment, which, if his money and patience holds out for another journey or two, may possibly be settled in a couple of terms more; so that, on a moderate computation, if the parties do neither of them wish to protract the business, and are tolerably diligent, they may probably bring it to a conclusion in about two years. And with respect to the two most distant districts which I have named, it is hardly possible for the routine to be completed in a shorter time. But should any studied delay be interposed, it is impossible to foretell how long it may last. But gentlemen will perhaps say that this arrangement will soon bring lawyers among us, and then the business may be managed more expeditiously. Yes, we all know how anxious gentlemen of the law are to bring suits to a speedy termination. Yet, were this not the most palpable irony, as the same circle must be trodden round, I cannot see that, with their utmost diligence, the time I have calculated for the duration of a cause could be at all shortened. But admitting that it might in some degree, the business of the country is by no means equal to support respectable characters of the profession, and the House need not be told that the understrappers of it are the greatest pest that a society can be cursed with. I have thus endeavoured to point out some, for it is impossible to foresee and enumerate all the evils with which, under our circumstances, this Bill is pregnant. I trust, however, I have

said enough to convince the House of its inexpediency, and to induce them to set their faces against it, as a measure, I will not say calculated, but certainly tending to swell the importance and fill the pockets of the professors of the law, rather than promote the speedy and effectual administration of justice; and that they will support me in the motion I now make that this Bill be committed for this day three months.

*(From the Life and Letters of the Hon. Richard Cartwright, pp. 67-72.)*¹

¹Monday, June 16, 1794. "The House met pursuant to adjournment. The Order of the Day being read,

'A Bill to establish a Superior court of civil and criminal jurisdiction and to regulate the court of Appeal,' was read the second time; and the question being put, that this Bill be now committed,

— "Mr. Cartwright moved that the consideration of the said Bill be taken in Committee of the Whole House three months hence.

"Mr. Hamilton seconded the motion, upon which the House divided, and it was carried by the non-contents."

— Monday, 23rd June, 1794. "The House met pursuant to adjournment . . .

"The Order of the Day being read, read as engrossed,

"A Bill 'To establish a Superior court of civil and criminal jurisdiction and to regulate the court of Appeal.'

"And the question being put: That this Bill do now pass,

— "Mr. Cartwright objected to the question by moving that the passing of the said Bill be put off for six months.

"Mr. Hamilton seconded the motion, which was negatived, and after some debate, the House divided upon the motion, which was negatived, thereupon ordered: That the said Bill do pass, and be sent to the House of Assembly for their concurrence.

"Upon which protest was entered as follows, to wit:

"Monday, 23rd June, 1794.

— "DISSENTIENT

"Because we consider the mode of administering justice under the present Bill, so far as it respects property and civil rights, to be wholly inapplicable both to the geographical and political situation of the colony, by which we ought to be guided in every measure that does not militate with the Constitution which our parent State hath given us, for though a Supreme Court from whence all process is to issue and in which every cause is finally to be adjudged, may be proper in England, which in every point of size is hardly equal to the smallest of our Districts, where the communication is easy and expeditious, and where the city of London, in which the Court is fixed, furnishes the greatest number of all the causes in the Kingdom, yet in this Province, with a thin population scattered over so immense an extent of country, where the mass of that population, small as it is, is situated in the District most remote from the place where the court is to be held, divided from this by inland seas and large tracts of waste lands of from two to three hundred miles in extent, shut out from all communication or intercourse for nearly five months in the year, without professional men or the prospect of sufficient business to support them, such an arrangement from the expence, delay and embarrassment that must necessarily attend it, appears to us highly to operate in many instances as a denial of justice, and it is evidently less founded in local expediency than the system which had hitherto obtained, of a court of original and exclusive jurisdiction (subject to the provision of a court of Appeal) established in each District, every objection to which would be at once removed by the appointment of a respectable professional character to preside in each.

And further, because under the plan of the present Bill, we are deprived of the voice of the Chief Justice in the court of Appeals, or even his opinion within the bias of a previous adjudication."

(Signed) RICHARD CARTWRIGHT, JUNR.

R. HAMILTON.

PROCEEDINGS OF A COUNCIL HELD AT BUFFALOE CREEK
JUNE 18TH, 1794.

PRESENT

Captain Brant,	Genl. Chapin,	for the U.S.
Capt. Johnson,	Mr. Colt,	
Interpreter,	Mr. Jones, ¹	

With the Chiefs of the Six Nations,
The Chiefs having assembled,
O'Bale, spoke as follows;
Brothers:

We are thankful that you have attended the call of the Six Nations and that you have been preserved by the Great Spirit, (here he addressed the following Speech to the President of the United States.)

Brothers: I have for a long time aimed at the good of both parties, I have paid you different compliments as that of Brothers, Fathers and now I call you Friends. We were pleased when we heard that you was appointed to the Chief command of the United States.

The Great Spirit has so ordered that every Nation shall have some One to be their Head, you are to look over your people and settle all difficulties, and we the Six Nations expect that you will not be unmindfull of us but see that we have justice done us, as well as to your own people.

Brothers: We the Six Nations now call upon you we pay no attention to what has been done, heretofore by Congress, their proceedings we Consider as unjust, we wish for nothing but Justice and hope that will take place.

Brothers: You wish to be a free people in this Country, from the other side of the Water, and live here, and why should we not, we whose Forefathers have lived and died here and always had possession of this Country.

Brothers: We the Six Nations have determined on the Boundary we want established, and it is the warriors who now speak.

Brothers: You have the map on which the boundary is marked, which we want established.

Brothers: We want room for our children it will be hard for them to have no Country to live in after we are gone.

Brothers: It is not because we are afraid of Dying, that we have been so long trying to bring about a peace, we now call upon you for an answer as Congress and their Commissioners have often deceived us, and if these difficulties are not removed the consequences will be bad.

Eight Strings Wampum Black & White,

Brothers: We have opened this fire place for two kinds of business, we wish you to listen to them with attention.

Brothers: We are in distress; a number of our warriors are missing and we know not what has become of them, but suppose they have been killed by the Americans.

Brothers: Last Fall an Indian Chief of the name of Big Tree went to the American Army in a friendly manner and we have since been informed that he was killed by them.

¹ Horatio Jones, 1763-1836, born at Downington, Pa.; a prisoner with the Six Nations, 1781-4; adopted by a Seneca woman, a sister of Cornplanter; interpreter for the United States, 1789-1803; died at Genesee, N.Y.

Brothers: The other day a very unfortunate circumstance happened, one of our Nephews of the Delaware Nation was killed at Venango, by a party of warriors, and who were sent to Presqu' Isle without any notice whatever having been given us.

Brothers: You must be sensible, that it is very hard to have a man killed in time of peace, one who sat easy and peaceably in his seat, you certainly would complain if we were to treat your people in the same manner.

Brothers: It has been customary when one person has killed another that those who has done the injury go to the injured party and make satisfaction.

Brothers: We told you that we had two series of business to attend to we hope you will attend to them both.

Brothers: The establishing a garrison at Presqu' Isle may occasion many accidents, as the Southern Indians may do injury, and we may be blamed without a cause.

Ten Strings Wampum Black,

O'Bale the speaker then addressed himself to General Chapin, as follows:

Brother: When we sent for you it was because we placed great dependence in you, we expected you would not fail to do every thing in your power to assist us.

Brother: We expect that you will exert yourself in removing these people off our lands we know very well what they are come on for and we want them pushed back.

Brother: We now wish that you and Mr. Johnson would go together and move these people back over the line, which we have marked on the Map.

Brother: If these people move off immediately we shall look upon them as friends, if not we shall consider them as no friends.

Brother: We expect that you and Mr. Johnson will go together on this business and we shall send ten warriors to attend you, and we shall expect word to us when we return.

Six Strings Wampum.

To this Speech Genl. Chapin returned the following answer.

Brothers: I have heard the speeches which you have delivered with great attention, and have thought seriously on what you have communicated to me, you have requested Mr. Johnston and myself to go to Presqu' Isle, as I wish to do every thing in my power both for the United States and the Indians I shall comply with the request.

Brothers: I can do no more to these people then to give them my advice it is not in my power to drive them away.

Brothers: You must be sensible that I am obliged to look to the interest of the States and the Indians, and consider myself accountable to both for whatever I do, and you may depend that whenever I return I shall give you a just account of what takes place.

Brothers: This business is of a serious nature and is really a matter of importance to both parties, you may rest assured that the President is your friend, and that he will pay attention to what you have laid before him.

Brothers: You observed that you would send ten warriors to accompany me, I request you will send Chiefs likewise.

Brothers: The business that you desire me to do is what I had little thought of I am unprepared for the journey, but as I have informed you that I would go I shall set out immediately.

Brothers: The speeches you have delivered for the President shall be sent on as soon as convenient and you may shortly expect to receive an answer.

Mr. Johnson and General Chapin with sixteen Chief Warriors proceeded to Fort Le Boeuf where they arrived the 26th of June.

27th. The foregoing speeches to the President as well as the request of the Six Nations were delivered in Council to Mr. Ellicott and the Officer Commanding there, to which they returned the following answer.

Brothers of the Six Nations:

Your Brothers of Pennsylvania have always been attentive to the wishes of the indians, especially to that of the Six Nations and are happy to meet with them in peace and unity.

Brothers: By the Peace of 1782 the King of Great Britain ceded to your Brethren of Pennsylvania all the lands which they claim but from a regard to justice and considering you as the real owners of the soil, could not consider themselves as entitled to it until fairly purchased from yourselves.

Brothers: The lands which you have requested us to move off of, have for several years been purchased by your Brothers of Pennsylvania from the Six Nations and the lines bounding the same were opened and marked with their consent and approbation. The Purchase North, of the North boundary of Pennsylvania, West of Canewango River, Lake Chataque and the path leading from thence to Lake Erie and South of the said Lake was made of your Chiefs at Fort Harmar by General Butler and General Gibson and the money and goods was punctually paid to them.

Brothers: Your Brethren of Pennsylvania have fairly and openly made the purchase of all the lands to which they lay claim, and having sold these lands to such people as chose to settle and work them they think it now their duty to protect such settlers from the depredations of all such persons as may molest them.

Brothers: The present military preparations of your Brethren of Pennsylvania are intended to protect their citizens against the hostile indians only, not supposing any protection necessary against the Six Nations whom they consider as their Friends and Allies.

Brothers: The line which you have marked on the Map will take back from your Brothers of Pennsylvania a large tract of land which they have purchased from you. We cannot therefore consistently with our duty remove from those lands unless directed by the Great Council of our people, to whom we shall immediately send your message.

Brothers: We shall be sorry that our continuing on the lands which you have sold to your Brethren of Pennsylvania should be the cause of any uneasiness or why we should not be considered by you as Friends.

Brothers: Your Brethren of Pennsylvania are a generous people, they have never wished for more than they were willing to pay for and have never attempted to take what did not belong to them. They will be glad to meet you at all times and afford relief to the weak and hungry of your people who may take the trouble to come and see them at this place, in the mean time as we are ordered here by the Great Council your Brothers of Pennsylvania we cannot consistent with our duty remove from hence, until orders come from them for that purpose, your message however shall be immediately forwarded by express to them for their Consideration.

FORT LE BOEUF, 26th June 1794,
(Signed) THOMAS NESBIT,
Secretary.

(Signed)

ANDREW ELLICOTT,
C. DENNY,
Capt. State Troops.

General Chapin and Mr. Johnson with the Chief Warriors having returned to Buffalo Creek, met the Chiefs in Council on the 4th July, when after relating the

answer of the people at Fort Le Boeuf and the usual compliments had passed, O'Bale a principal Seneca Chief addressed the following speech to General Washington.

Brother:

I now call you Friend, attend to the voice of the Six Nations who have been united and loved each other since the beginning of the World. We have assembled here on account of the transactions near Presqu' Isle, and we have received an answer to the message we had sent, the answer from the people at Fort Le Boeuf hints upon every thing that has taken place since the peace, the greatest part of what they have told us is not true, they have related some of their former deceptions, they have told me that they had given me Land, but to compleat my wishes, I desire that all the Six Nations may have Lands, I depend upon you Genl. Washington to grant our requests, and make our mind easy, for many reflections are thrown upon me by the Six Nations, I am almost determined to rise from my Berth and die with them.

Brother: We know what we have received from the United States from time to time, we have fully considered the Muskingum Boundary, and we are determined it shall remain, if you establish this line, I think we shall be about even.

Brother: If you do not comply we shall determine upon something else, you know that we are a free people, and that the Six Nations are able to defend themselves. We are determined to maintain our freedom.

Brother: Do not imagine that our minds are corrupted by other people, the only thing that can corrupt them will be a refusal of our Demands.

Brother: If our request is not granted I wish that my son may be sent with the Answer and tell me which side he means to join for he is at liberty to do as he likes.

Brother: We request that you will send a speedy answer to our speeches and that the messenger may come to our Council fire at this place.

Eight Strings Wampum Black & White.

The speaker then addressed Genl. Chapin.

Brother: You who stand between the Indians and the United States, we request that you will give every assistance in your power to forward this business. You find us as determined as ever upon the line between us and the United States, we put confidence in you and request that you will forward our Determination to the people at Fort Le-Boeuf and desire them not to move forward.

GENL. CHAPIN'S ANSWER.

Brothers: I am happy the Great Spirit has preserved us to meet again in Council, I have heard with attention the Speeches you have made and have committed them to writing, they have since been explained to you that you might see there was no Deception.

Brothers: I must give it as my opinion that Genl. Washington is a firm friend to the Six Nations and that he will not by any Means see them Wronged.

Brothers: I am happy to hear that you look upon yourselves as free, Independent people that is the Case with the United States, they are free and independent and wish to take you by the hand as Brothers. It seems now that there is some dispute but the only way to have it settled is to come together face to face and talk the matter over *Cordially*.

Brothers: I shall now return home and will forward your speeches to Genl. Washington as soon as possible in the mean time I hope you will set easy on your seats until you hear General Washington's Voice.

Brothers: I always consider myself Accountable to the indians as well as the United States, I aim the good of both parties and you may rest assured that nothing in my power shall be wanting to Assist, I shall prepare a Copy of your determination to be sent on to Le Boeuf provided you send runners for that purpose.

GENL. WAYNE'S SPEECH.

To all the Sachems Chiefs and Warriors of the Six Nations.

Brothers: We have all to lament the unfortunate death of Capt. Big Tree, who put an end to his own existence about two months since, I made every enquiry into the cause of his death, and ordered thirteen of my warriors to examine the Body, and give me their opinion in writing under their hands and Seal which I now send to you by our friend Mr. Rosecrantz.

A few days after his arrival three Delawares arrived at this Cantonment with a flag and message from the hostile indians proposing to me to fix upon a time and place for holding a treaty in order to agree upon the terms on which peace should be made, I now send you a Copy of that message together with my answer which will be delivered to you by Mr. Rosecrantz.

Capt. Big Tree was present and heard the message from the hostile Indians to me, and my answer to the Message.

I then made this short speech to the Delaware messengers;

Nephews, I call you, because you have always acknowledged the Six Nations your Uncles. I am pleased to find that your pride is lowered and that you begin to come to your reason you were too proud last Summer to listen to the Commissioners of the Thirteen fires and your Uncles.

I will only just inform you that the Voice of the Thirteen fires is the voice of the Six Nations, therefore tell your Chiefs and Warriors to listen to the Voice of their Great Chiefs tell them immediately to comply with his Demands and to deliver up all the prisoners within the course of thirty days, and not to neglect if they wish to see their Children grow up to be men and Women.

That same night Capt. Big Tree had some angry talk with the Delawares; whether he had eat or drank with them afterwards, or whether they gave him something that put him out of his reason afterwards, I cannot tell, but certain it is that from that time to the moment of his death he was melancholy and deranged until the last moment of his death when stabbing himself with his own knife.

Brothers: I have now told you every thing that has taken place and all that was said to and with the Hostile Indians, since which I have not heard nor seen any thing further from them, except that they murder our people and steal our Horses whenever they have an opportunity so that all prospect of peace is now done away I have therefore every reason to believe that the only object the hostile Indians had in view was to reconnoitre our situation and to see our numbers and to gain time to collect their warriors from their different hunting camps in order to fight us and continue the War.

Brothers: I was informed by Capt. Big Tree that many of your people had died last Summer in consequence of something you had eat, when at the Council with the hostile Indians at the Rapids of the Miami of the Lake and that my friend and Brother the New Arrow is amongst the Dead and that my good friend Capt. O'Bale was also near dying for which my heart has been sorry, this mode of making War is cowardly and base and Capt. Big Tree was determined to have revenge had he lived this they well know and are glad that He is dead.

Brothers: I have sent cloathing for the wife and daughter of Capt. Big Tree by Mr. Rosecrantz and a suit of mourning to his two Brothers and a Rifle to each.

I have also ordered the Commanding Officer of Fort Franklin to build a house for them and to give them plenty of provisions and every thing they may want and to provide for and take care of them.

(Signed) ANTHONY WAYNE.

Major General and Commander in Chief of the
Legion of the United States.

GREENVILLE, 26th March, 1794.

Per Tr. copy taken by Mr. Johnson¹.

Endorsed:—COUNCIL, 6 NATIONS, Buffalo Creek, June & July 1794.

FROM CHARLES STEVENSON TO JOHN KING.²

Sir:

In a letter I have just rec'd from Col. Simcoe he tells me that he has written to Mr. Dundas to say that from a long list of requisitions made by me in *his name* that he disapproves of my Conduct in so doing, he either has misunderstood Mr. Dundas's dispatch which convey'd my suggestions, *for Official demands on my part in his name*, or he has not made the distinction of what he required me to enforce the utility of, from my Opinions on the state of the Country of Upper Canada—for which information he referr'd Mr. Dundas in the dispatches which I brought over in which he tells Mr. D. that I am "the bearer of the dispatch and perfectly capable of communicating any information he may require relative to the Gov't of U. Canada—The field train, Artificer's Compy. (if it could be spar'd), to point out the Economy and Publick benefit.

To recommend the augmentation of his Corps to man the Marine as a better mode than the present.

The 2 Bat. of the 60th Regt. serving in the W. Indies to return to Canada when their term was out, (if it met with His Majesty's approbation), for the purpose of admitting the Gentlemen's Sons of the Country into it to strengthen the Aristocracy—To get the publick Offices finally settled—as

Commissary Genl.

Clerk of the Executive Council.

Surveyor Genl.

Qr. Mr. Genl.

These were dictated to me by his Excellency, the other articles are the informations which my observations enabled me to give to Mr. D. if agreeable to the tenor of Col. S's dispatch wish'd to have a more particular acct. of the Country. I think it right to give this explanation least I should be suppos'd not to have had his Excellency's Opinion on some of the Subjects treated on and agreeable to the tenor of his dispatch give my own when they were ask'd for, his last dispatch will say how far we may differ in Opinion as to the particular advantages to be derived from adopting them either in part or in toto—his Excellency so dreads responsibility as to make it very awkward to me. You will do me the favor to state this to Mr. Dundas, as I wish every step I take to be clearly understood, as I do not wish that either his Majesty's Ministers or Col. Simcoe should think I would make promises or demands in their names, without their instructions, my Opinions & information

¹ William Johnston.

² Joint Under Secretary of State with Evan Nepean. The township of King, in the County of York, was named in his honour.

as they were ask'd are united' with those Articles which Col. S. wish'd me to expatiate upon & if they prove useful they will answer the wishes of your Oblighed

Humble Servant—

ORCHD STREET, June 17th, 1794.

Rufus King, Esqr. (sic.)

CHAS. STEVENSON.

Endorsed:—Col. Stevenson. June 17 1794. R. same day.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, 17th June, 1794.

My Lord:

I take the earliest opportunity of informing Your Lordship that Mr. William—son, with about twenty heads of families are forming a settlement at the Sodus—He has sent an Agent here to procure flour, which, of course, I have not permitted, and have ordered his messengers out of the Province. The party who plundered boats about Three Rivers Point, are said to be dispersed. Bertzie with the Germans from the Genessee are daily expected, and I understand met with no molestation.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, June 19, 1794.

My Dear Sir:

The Chippawa did not arrive here till late yesterday evening and I hurry to send away the Dunmore who sails this evening. I report to the Assistant Quartermaster General some particulars relative to the naval department for your information as I am unwilling to give you at this time more trouble than is necessary.

Since my last I have heard twice from Colonel McKee, the substance of his first letter with the intelligence I herewith enclose. His last letter was dated the 13th inst., but does not contain anything very particular. Several Bands of Indians were daily coming to the Foot of the Rapids that were not expected and several Ottawas and Chippawas from Mackinac passed by here last week on their way to the Glaize. From the reports sent to me by those not accustomed to exaggerate, the Indians now assembled amount to sixteen hundred, a more formidable force considerably than ever collected since the contest commenced. The Block House and Store House on Turtle Island are finished and a Sergeant, Corporal and twelve men placed there as you directed. The Fort at the Miamis¹ is

¹The earthworks of this Fort Miamis still exist within the limits of the village of Maumee, Ohio, a few miles southwest of the city of Toledo. Lieut. Pilkington's plan of the territory is reproduced at p. 285, and an illustration of the ramparts as they appeared in 1910 may be seen in "Diary of Mrs. Simcoe" (p. 218), from the J. Ross Robertson Collection. Dr. Chas. E. Slocum, writing in the Ohio Archaeological and Historical Quarterly of April, 1902 (Vol. X, p. 483), says:—"Fort Miami was the best built fort of its time in the northwest country. It was the last British stronghold influencing the Aborigines against American settlers in the Maumee Valley. Its location was the favorite one at that time." Dr. Slocum assumes that the British were the instigators of the Indian hostilities against the United States, which is the view universally held by writers of the early history of Ohio; and he apparently considers that to extinguish Indian tribal tenure forever, it was only necessary to cow a few members of a tribe, and bribe others with presents to sign away their lands at so-called treaties, as if legally done by the whole tribe.

not in great forwardness but by this time in a state to prevent surprise. The Brazen and Spitfire Gun Boats under the command of a commissioned officer have made three trips there with provisions and stores required by Lieutenant Pilkington. They carried out on the 14th inst. the six pounders directed by you which Captain Stiell will either detain or send back as circumstances may direct him. I would willingly detain the Dunmore till the return of the Gun Boats to give you the latest intelligence at this critical time from that Post but am willing that you should have always a King's vessel at Fort Erie, which I will contrive to manage. Some news of consequence may be hourly expected from Colonel McKee and whenever it arrives it shall be immediately forwarded to you. I sent you an express by land which I hope reached you safely.

I send on board the Dunmore Doctor Freeman with a letter to Captain Pratt at Fort Erie to forward him to you. Many applications have been made to me to detain him here by his creditors who are numerous. They represent that he has debts due to him and a considerable property in cattle, &c. which could enable him to pay them, but as you were anxious to have him sent down to you, I did not feel myself at liberty to delay it any longer. I also send two prisoners taken by the Indians which I have also directed Captain Pratt to forward. They are both Americans, and one of them a settler at Fort Washington who served the last war but was not a soldier when taken. There are a few more in the settlement who by degrees I will discover and send away. I am sorry to find from you that you consider war inevitable. This country is not in a state to provoke it, naked and accessible as it is. We must however do our best—what that will be time will shew. I congratulate you on the capture of Martinico. I think our only good accounts are from the West Indies, and yet I apprehend Sir Charles Grey will be too much weakened to attempt more Islands as those already taken must be well garrisoned.

The American News Papers mention that the Marquis of Cornwallis has arrived in England, but they mention it so oddly that I do not perfectly credit them. Pray has any account of the kind reached you. I find Mollendorff has succeeded the Duke of Brunswick in command of the Prussian Troops. I suppose His Serene Highness found his situation unpleasant and saw no prospect of that success that at first we were all taught to expect. The Sans Culottes and Carmagnoles fight like devils.

You may be assured of my forwarding every information of consequence that reaches me.

I am, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

Lt. Gov. Simcoe.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

NAVY HALL, UPPER CANADA, 20th of June, 1794.

Sir:

I beg leave to enclose to you & submit most earnestly to your favorable recommendation to Lord Amherst, the Copy of a Memorial I have transmitted to His Lordship in favor of Captain Shank.

This Officer from his earliest Entrance into the King's Service, has in long course of painful duties had opportunities of distinguishing himself which rarely

fall to the share of Military Men, & he has ardently seized the opportunity; in particular as a subaltern in the daring charge of a superior body of the enemy at Brandywine, & in the remarkable defence of a Post at Germantown. As a Captain of Cavalry, I owe my preservation & that of my Corps & Convoy in Virginia to his defeating in one action, a Superior Body of Cavalry & afterwards breaking through their Infantry; the Queens Rangers whose raising He superintended are now as well disciplined as circumstances have admitted owing to his attention, & I must add that at the Commencement of the American War, this Gentleman quitting the Mercantile profession in Virginia, in which a similar Industry which he has used in his military duty would long ago have placed him in an honorable Competence, if not in affluence, & immediately joining the Royal Standard, will I hope be an additional reason to my warmest recommendation in interesting you in the behalf of so able an Officer.

The Establishment of the Queens Rangers, Sir, I need not intimate to you was adapted to a particular purpose, the Obtaining an efficient Number of private Soldiers.—I by no means conceive it to be proper for a War Establishment. It has not an adequate Number of Subaltern or possibly field Officers; perhaps, Sir, existing circumstances may induce you to Supervise it, & to recommend its augmentation, in such a Case, Captain Shank would naturally become its Major. The Captain Lieutenants, and possibly the Lieutenants, Brooking a very old & good Officer, & Lt. Givings an Officer from whom I have drawn the greatest advantage on his knowledge of the Indian Nations, Captains—Such an arrangement, Sir, I hope you will think just, not only in respect to the present numbers of the Corps, but as the Canadian Regiments now to be raised must frequently upon Service at expensive Posts be under the command of the Captain Lieutenants of the Queens Rangers, whose pay is scarcely adequate to existence in this very dear Country, & will be totally insufficient to preserve the due equality with their Brother officers of similar Rank, or separately over those of inferior Stations a circumstance which I have always experienced to be by no means a trifling consideration in respect to the King's Service.

I have the honor to be, Sir, with the utmost Respect,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. G. SIMCOE.

Right Honorable Henry Dundas one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Endorsed:—Upper Canada, 20th June, 1794. Lt. Govr. Simcoe. R. 22d Sept. Ansd. (One Inclosure) Copy sent to Ld. Amherst.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO JOHN KING.

NAVY HALL, UPPER CANADA, 20 June, 1794.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter, & beg leave to thank you for the Information therein contained, which clears up the mistake made by Mr. Justice Powell. Your Opinion will have the greatest weight with the Council in regulating the Fee Bill.

I beg to introduce Capt. Talbot to your Notice, this Young Gentleman has lived with me ever since I have been in the Province, & in whom I have always had the greatest confidence, if you will mention him to my friend, Mr. Nepean, in these

Terms, & say how perfectly qualified he is to give him any account He may wish to have of me, you will confer a great obligation on me.

I shall feel a most irreparable Loss in Mr. Chief Justice Osgood. I hope to God he will be replaced by an *English* Lawyer.

I have the honor to be Sir

With great Respect your humble Servant.

J. G. SIMCOE.

John King Esquire. Under Secretary of State.

Endorsed:—Upper Canada, 20th June, 1794. Lt. Govr. Simcoe.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

No. 25.

NAVY HALL, UPPER CANADA, 20th June, 1794.

Sir:

I do myself the honor of enclosing to you a letter of mine to Lord Dorchester which sufficiently explains to you the most material Point in which I think, the direction of the Commissariat should be under the Controul of the Executive Government of this Country, subordinate to the Commander in Chief, but not to that of any intervening Power in the Commissary General of Quebec.

I beg to observe to you that in the last year when I refused the Agents of the United States permission to purchase flour for the Indian Treaty to be held at Sandusky, It might have been possible & necessary that I could have carried into Execution the intimation of Mr. Hammond & thrown sufficient Obstacles in the way of the Purchasers without in Person, appearing to give any opposition to the measure.

Mr. Hamilton,¹ who is a man of a very good understanding, and great personal liberality, in my Confidential Communications with him on the Subject, had agreed that such a permission given to the United States would totally alienate the Indians from the British Interests; yet upon being applied to by the Agent of the United States, & finding himself intended to be employed by them, He seemed to totally have forgotten his former Sentiments, & I am persuaded was perfectly ready to have furnished the requisite Supplies.—Two instances are this moment furnished, which will lead to the deductions That, I feel it necessary to state to you in support of my Opinion of the Commissariat of this Province being under the direction of the Lieutenant Governor—the one is, the unprincipled Agent of the French Refugees, who was last year received in this Province in the most hospitable manner, Monsieur Des Jardins has written to me from Albany desiring Permission to purchase flour from Kingston in order to establish a Settlement on Hungry Bay & Salmon River near to Oswego, in the most absolute Contravention of the King's Interests and the Boundary line proposed by his Majesty's Servants, & in defiance of the claims of the Six Nations. Another Person of the name of Williamson has established a Settlement at Sodus near to Oswego which threatens those hostilities in fact which this man, lately an Officer in the King's Service has constantly in his mouth—This Mr. Williamson sent in his Agent to purchase flour from the Bay of Kente for the Support of his Settlement. I luckily detected his Agent and drove him from the Province; but Sir, I must observe to you there is no existing law

¹Robert Hamilton.

that prevents the Exportation of flour, the staple, & in some places the drug of the Country—nor would it be wise or possible to get it enacted—but it must be obvious to you, Sir, that in both these Instances the Exportation of flour would be detrimental to the King's Interest, & that an intimation to the flour Merchant that he should be deprived of the benefit of the market which his Majesty's Garrisons constantly afforded in case he should profit of this temporary advantage to himself, in opposition to the King's Interests, would be the most effectual method of preventing the Injury.

I do not add, Sir, arrangements of lesser Consequence, but of a certain public Benefit such as giving specific Encouragement to produce speedily great public advantage, such for instance as directing purchase to be made from the farmers who reside on the Streams flowing into Lake Erie, in order to effect a supply for Detroit, without the necessary expence of the portage, such as buying up all the Indian Corn at Buffaloe Creek &c. &c., in order to prevent a settlement at Presque Isle, as they are of inferior Considerations—yet neither in these nor in the former Instances can it be possible for the Commissary General residing at Quebec to know or attend to the King's Interests; & yet most certainly in the first case, as my successors will feel the Influence of the Commissariat, if lodged in their hands, will be of the utmost Consequence, in both that it is not so, I have experience, is of detriment to his Majesty's Service.

I have the honor to be Sir, With the utmost Respect,

Your most Obedient humble Servant,

J. G. SIMCOE.

Lt. Governor of Upper Canada.

Right Honorable Henry Dundas one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Endorsed:—Upper Canada 20th June 1794. Lt. Govr. Simcoe. R. 22d Septr. No 25. Ansd. (One Inclosure).

FROM JOHN BARNES TO FRANCIS LE MAISTRE.

QUEBEC, 21st June, 1794.

Sir:

From the difficulty there is at present in procuring Seamen for the Provincial Marine I have represented to His Excellency the Commander in Chief that I thought it would facilitate that Service, by allowing a Gratuity of a Dollar Pr. man to Tavernkeepers or others who may look out for, and bring Able Seamen to me to Enter, which His Lordship was pleased to approve of. I am therefore to request you will please to obtain his authority to the Storekeeper General or person His Lordship may wish to make this Disbursement, to pay it on the Certificate of

Sir, Your very humble Servt.

JNO. BARNES.

Dy.Q.M.Genl.

Fras. Le Maistre. Esq. Military Secty.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

No. 24.

NAVY HALL, UPPER CANADA, June 21st, 1794.

Sir:

I do myself the honor of acknowledging the receipt of your dispatch No. 3, dated on the 15th of March which I received at this place on the 14th of this Month, and I beg leave to Offer such observations as the Subjects therein mentioned seem to require.

In respect to the Marriage Bill at the close of the Sessions, I will state to you Sir the Chief Justice Osgoode's and my opinion relative to the Subject, and here Sir, whilst I cannot but lament the very severe loss that His Majesty's Service in respect to this Province will suffer in the removal of this Gentleman to Lower Canada, and which I shall most sensibly experience, personally, and as far as respects the Public in my laborious Office; I cannot but rest upon you, in confidence, that the Successor to this important Duty will be a British Lawyer, accustomed to the forms of the English Bar, of undoubted loyalty, and of approved Integrity.

In the distribution of the Front Lots of the Town of York, as it seemed to be probable, that for a time, this Station would be the residence of the Government of the Country, They were so laid out as to give one hundred Acres to each of the Officers of Government as an inducement to build a House in the Town and a remuneration for its Expence; but these grants I did not choose to make final until I understood your pleasure on the subject—a glebe and a residence for the Clergyman were amongst such appropriations, but with the Intention that such Lands should be reversionary with the Benefice.

In the course of a few days a final ratification of the Allotments will take place when your Intimations, Sir, will be attended with that respect that is due to them.

The Approbation of His Majesty's Servants of my endeavour to render them true Information of the Geographical Situation, and relative Advantages of this Colony gives me singular Comfort and satisfaction.

I have done my utmost to draw the attention of the Inhabitants of this Country to look to the Lakes as the means of their Wealth, and of their defence.

I am perfectly of Opinion that Gun Boats are the primary means of defence for the communications and Shores of this Country, and in this Spirit the Occupying of real and defensible Harbours, and not of Rivers, incapable of protection has been the first principle of defence that I wished to be adopted by His Majesty's Servants for this Colony.

I always esteemed Toronto or York of this description—Adequate to its Protection at present, I wished for a Citadel originally of small expence, but which might be encreased with circumstances, and become almost impregnable; to Garrison this Place I offered means thro' the partial disbandment and renovation of a Corps, which if fairly tried, will succeed, and which as I stated in a former dispatch, I shall at a seasonable Opportunity submit in all its details to your Consideration, And I am bold to affirm to your Protection. Whoever expects to collect Colonial Militia from a distant Country to garrison Fortresses that do not include their habitations, is totally ignorant of the disposition of such Militia; and such Ignorance may be fatal to the King's Service.

Long Point on Lake Erie, and Matchadash Bay on Lake Huron, offer nearly the same advantages as York with this especial one, That in a great measure in the infancy of the Province one Establishment of a Dock Yard may serve for all three, and as the Province shall encrease that the whole force of such an Estab-

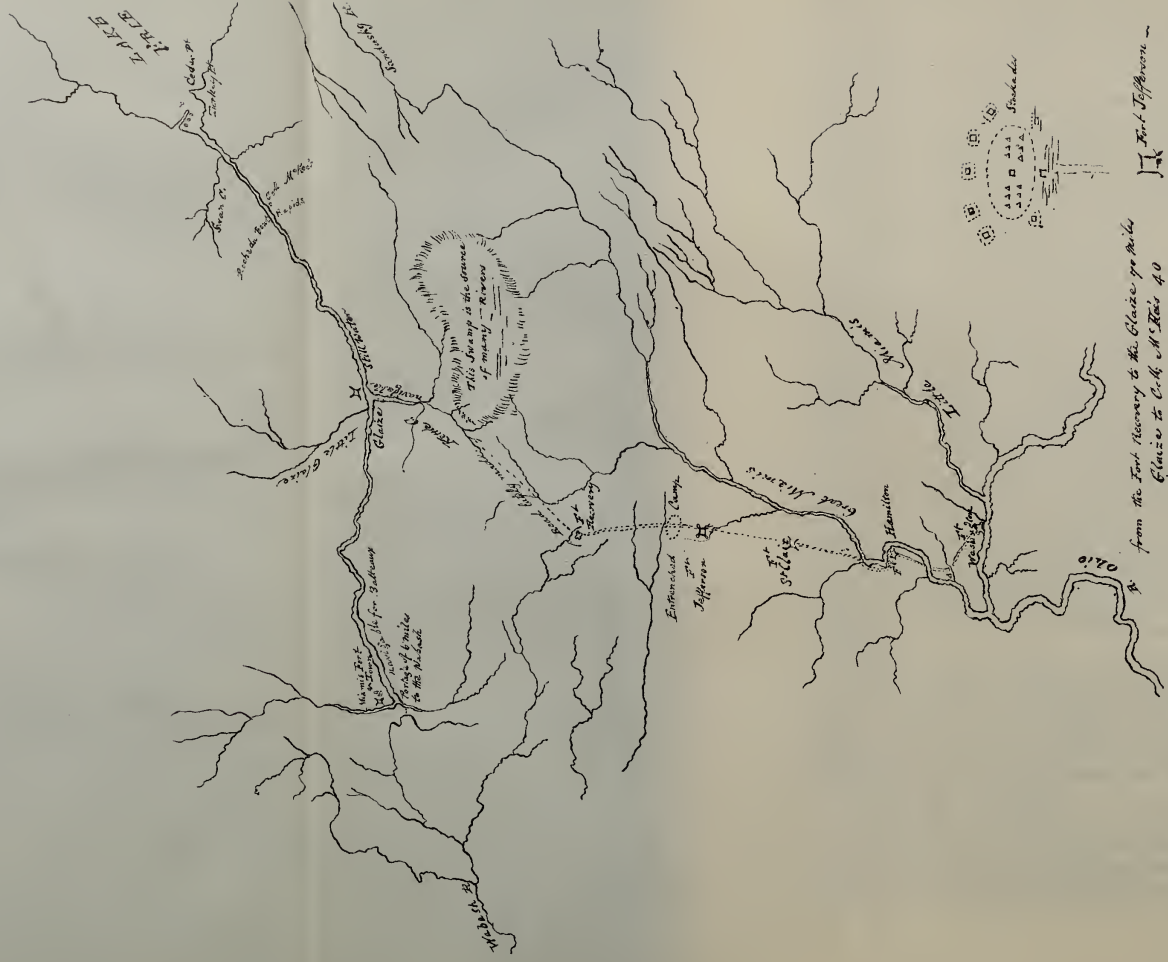
lishment may easily be collected as circumstances shall require, to accelerate any Public Armament that may be necessary to be expeditiously fitted out on either *Lake*, in respect to the unhealthiness of Long Point I do not believe it to be true, in fact there are no settlements there, excepting some few in contravention of Government; but the applicants for Establishments there, are beyond number in proportion to that of any parts of the Province—What in the plan may appear Stagnant Waters, are not so, but rise and fall with the Lakes—I beg to observe to you, as a general principle, that nothing appears to be reducible to any general Rules, than the respective healthiness or unhealthiness of any Part of this Province; In the lower Districts, Kingston, I found, to be proverbial for unhealthiness; at Kingston, Niagara; The Medical Men were consulted on my originally hutting the Queens Rangers at Queenstown—but on experience, it was found that had they not been removed to York they would probably have been all buried.—At York They were as remarkably healthy, as Kingston, Niagara, the Genesee and the Indian Villages have been to the Contrary.

I think it necessary thus much to say, as there was not a House built at Long Point previous to my arrival in the Province—and that possibly the report of its unhealthiness may be one of the many Plans of the Land Jobbers, which as might be naturally expected, have in various ways been employed to defeat every Idea of my extending the Seat of Government or Naval Station beyond the circle of their own Possessions; and which in this case, might be of peculiar detriment, was it known, that upon the produce of a sale of part of the Lands on Lake Erie, I have engrafted a system of the most beneficial tendency to the Province, should not other and more General Considerations, when I shall offer it to your Consideration, determine you against the Expediency of my proposal—I must beg to observe, that the most certain means of erecting Towns in this Province necessary in all respects for the establishment of the King's Authority and the general Welfare of the Province, is by the station of Troops in their vicinity, and selecting for that purpose places marked by natural advantages, the confluence of Rivers, the security of Harbours or the termination of Portages. The Regiment that is annually cantoned in Lower Canada, on any opposite situation, would long before this, have given Birth to a flourishing Town, and not have left that Province without a vestige of its belonging to Great Britain, but the Garrison of Quebec or factory of Montreal.—It is therefore I conceive Wisdom to apply the means which Government must allow for the defence of this Colony in its Infancy to such purposes as may create a solid and permanent system, which would never spring up merely from Agriculture, and would be late indeed, if left to the culture of Mercantile Monopoly.

It is with singular satisfaction that I observe Sir, that you have been pleased to notice the occupation of York, and of the Harbour of Long Point connect our forces with the Posts in Our Possession, It was in this very Spirit that on a War with France I occupied York, but I am sorry that such are the State of Circumstances that Lord Dorchester seems inclined to fortify the Harbour near Kingston, respecting the St. Lawrence as the Point of principal Attention. An Engineer is now taking a Survey of that Communication, and I am directed by His Lordship to make my Observations on the Subject.

His Lordship's disapprobation of extending the Posts prevents me from seizing on the Post at Long Point, which being on the head of the sand Beach, that is but Twenty five Miles from Presque-Isle now becomes of momentous importance.

In respect to the Indian Department Lord Dorchester has appointed Colonel McKee to the additional Superintendancy of Michilimackinac, vacant by the Supercession of the late Superintendant for defalcation.



A Sketch of Gen. Wayne's Advance, 1793-4.

I have just transmitted to His Lordship the result of a Court of Enquiry into the Indian Stores at this Place, by which it appears there has been a defalcation of nearly one half of the Quantity, these circumstances, tho' of sufficient magnitude as they would not only defraud the King but deprive his Government of the good Effects which the benevolence of the Nation is calculated to effect among the Indians; are still very inferior considerations to the political Interest that it is necessary to manage among the Indian Nations, which require a perpetual vigilance and incessant attention, that from the Circumstance of the Capriciousness of these people, and the Seductions of the Agents of the United States cannot possibly be managed in all its variations by the Commander in Chief in Lower Canada, or a Superintendant General residing in that Province and occasionally visiting this Country—In this Spirit it is that I wish to see Colonel McKee, a man of real ability and sound Loyalty, at the Board of the Executive Council of this Country, and as President of a Committee, Superintending upon the Spot the General Policy of the Indian Nations, as well as the Controul of the King's Presents and the Specific and Systematic mode of their delivery; and reporting thro' me as civil Lieutenant Governor, or as Commanding the King's Troops to Lord Dorchester.

I shall give every encouragement to the settling the Communication between Lake Huron and York Harbour.

Of course from the Events on the Continent I did not expect, Sir, that the Regiments in this Country could be filled by recruits from Europe. I only lament that I am not now in Possession of the Posts, whose importance I have so constantly displayed.—should it be possible to recruit in this Country, which I doubt, I shall hope that Lord Dorchester will Alter his Opinion, and allow me to occupy them.

I enclose for your perusal, Sir, the proceedings of the late Council held at Buffaloe Creek by the Six Nations. I have not been deceived in my conjecture of Brant. He has joined with all descriptions of Persons in this Country in constructing the occupation of the Post at the Miamis River, and Lord Dorchester's Speech to the Seven Nations, into a certainty of Great Britain being engaged in Hostilities with the United States—He has acted with firmness and vigour—The Corn Planter has also declared himself ready to obey any Instructions He shall receive from me his best *Friend*; the Union of these Powerful Chiefs and the reconciliation of the Six Nations (Oneidas excepted) will I trust be productive of the best effects to the King's Interests—their intention is to remove to Buffaloe Creek, which I have not opposed, or should any arrangements take place with the United States, and from the total silence of your dispatch Sir, on the Subject, I entertain some hopes, that such will be the Case, the vicinity of Buffaloe Creek and the means I shall now make use of to confirm the Chiefs in their attachment to His Majesty will I trust prevent on this side those Ill Effects which must otherwise be naturally expected to result from the measures which have lately been taken on the principles of self defence, and under the apprehension of which I have stated to Lord Dorchester last April, "that It must be evident to your Lordship from the effect which the late transactions has had in respect to the Indians, there can be no safety for this Province, and of course British America should they be abandoned to themselves and not confirmed in their just claims by the determined and avowed mediation of Great Britain."

General Wayne's Army is probably advancing. I hope but I am by no means confident, that the Indians will effectually oppose him. It may give you Sir, some satisfaction to see the General course of his march as far as can be ascertained by deserters &c., I therefore transmit the Sketch. I also beg to offer you one of the

Post at the Miamis.—It includes *Turtle Island* which I mean to occupy and to Combine all the defences of Land Batteries, Gun Boats, and the Shipping to prevent if possible Mr Wayne from obtaining any supplies from Presque-Isle or elsewhere, by that Channel, and it exhibits the Islands in the Erie and shews their very great consequence to the future navigation of the Lakes.

There appears to me to be a greater difficulty in raising men in this Country as proposed for the Canadian Corps preparatory to a War than perhaps Sir should it unfortunately take place, may happen at its commencement, or during its continuance—No industry on my part shall be wanting, Sir, to fulfill your Intentions, and I trust that the King's Service shall not be betrayed by inactivity or indecision. I have a firm hope that the Legislature of this Country will in all cases arm me with sufficient Power in the defence of the Laws and His Majesty's Rights to oppose all who contravene them, and to set at defiance those principles of terror by which the late American revolution was carried into Effect and if such be the necessity to meet it with equal and commanding Security.

I trust if I remain in the Military Command in this Country, that I shall be enabled to establish a defensible Military Arsenal. The States of America will at once overwhelm this Colony or they will have all to dread in their turn. I have never offered an Idea tending to contradict that line of Policy which His Majesty's Ministers have thought proper to adopt in respect to the placing of the Indian Land as an intermediate Boundary. I have shaped my course, Sir, most industriously, by your Instructions; I have reconciled the Senecas and Brant with whom otherwise He declares he never would have been connected, and as their manner is, have received the name of the Original founder of the League of the Six Nations to mark that event—The Western Indians are also attached to the King's Government while those near to Montreal, The St. Regis and Cagnawage Indians are unfortunately disaffected—but, Sir, in my provisional establishments I have certainly been guarding against events that may happen and which I do not look upon with any degree of apprehension namely the approximation of the United States to the Lakes. I am persuaded that a successful war on this side, or possibly a repulse of the first Incursions will operate to occasion the Colonies of the United States (for such I consider all establishments on this side of the Alleganeys) and Kentucky to throw off their dependencies—but should this measure be affected by the slower yet more certain operations of Peace—it is to me apparent that Competent Establishments of Troops and fortified Harbours must for a while be kept up in this Province to awe its Neighbours, whether Indians or Whites and to give to the Country efficient Protection. For Sir, tho' few men from Birth or education are apt to consider Naval Protection in a more estimable light than I do, a respect for truth obliges me to say, that its operations on a defensive system, are too precarious to be the sole, or even in my apprehension, the most certain obstacle against the designs of an able Adversary, superior in the number of Troops, and in the means of feeding them, and such will be the force of the United States, if it once be permitted to carry on offensive Warfare against this Colony.

The variety of business which my Station has of late required, and which for want of proper Assistance, has totally fallen upon myself, prevents me at present, Sir, from arranging those materials which I collected for a report to the Lords of the Council for trade—but circumstances seem to require that I should give you information Sir, on one point which will be contained in that memoir. It is to establish a Factory on the Western Side of the Mississippi opposite the mouth of the Ouisconsin, this factory to have no monopolizing Privileges of trade, their Advantages to be the occupancy of the Territory purchased and the regular distribu-

tion of the Presents to be furnished by the Crown *annually* to the Indian Nations who have sold the Soil. Annual presents also must be given at Michilimackinac &c. as *tributes* for the passing of the Foxes River and Ouisconsin to the Several Nations; these presents to be deducted from the general allowance to the Indians and not additional.

The advantages proposed are many, a Post on the Mississippi and Harbour capable of building Gun Boats are the Military ones. The present seems to be a moment in which such an establishment would be acceptable rather than give Cause of Jealousy to Spain as I gather from General Circumstances and the Letter of the Governor of New Orleans to me which without doubt has been communicated to you Sir, by the Commander in Chief.

When Sir, His Majesty's forces in the late War abandoned Philadelphia, and before their arrival at New York, I offered under the general Idea of the War being terminated to lead my own Regiment and other Provincials into this Country—I then collected from information, and I now believe that it might be held by Great Britain even should Lower Canada be lost; I am still of that opinion, and tho' I most fervently pray that no such event may happen, yet in this extreme necessity, I should be far from thinking myself subdued, or not endeavour at a proper resistance.

Lower Canada at the first appearance would seem not to depend upon the loss or preservation of the Upper Province; I am of opinion it might prove otherwise should the experiment be made.

The Province of New York, by the route of Lake Simcoe and Matchadash Bay would at once possess itself of the Fur Trade. The Indians would be subdued and probably Quebec soon invaded and besieged.

I merely sketch out this Idea, Sir, to shew you that I look upon Niagara and its dependencies, York and Long Point, of the utmost Importance in the greatest scale of events; that they are so or inferior considerations I think I shall establish when I shall transmit my Observations to Lord Dorchester on the St. Lawrence.

This Letter will be delivered to you, Sir, by Captain Talbot, who returns to England upon promotion, and who having lived in my family ever since I have been in Upper Canada and been employed in the most confidential intercourse between me, Mr. Hammond and Colonel McKee and having accompanied me in my several Journeys is capable of communicating to you Sir, any Information you may be pleased to require, on the several subjects which I have offered to you in my various dispatches and on the existing state of this Province.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect,

Sir, Your most Obedient and very Humble Servant,

J. G. SIMCOE.

Lt. Governor of Upper Canada.

The Right Honorable Henry Dundas &c., &c., &c.

Endorsed:—Navy Hall 21st June, 1794. Lt. Govr. Simcoe. R. 22d Sepr. No. 25. Ansd. Three Inclosures.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, June 21st, 1794.

My Lord:

I do myself the honor of enclosing to Your Lordship, the result of a Council held at the Buffaloe Creek by the Six Nations, and which was brought here yester-

day by Captain Brant. He is to return to the Council fire in eight days, when the effects which shall attend the Commission with which General Chapin is charged will fully be made known.

The Indians, it is presumed, will quit the Interior Country and assemble at Buffaloe Creek. I by no means think it prudent to discourage this measure, which they state as necessary for the preservation of their women and children.

I am to acknowledge the receipt of the Mandamus for calling Dr. Mountain the Bishop of Quebec, to the Executive Council of this Province. This being the only intimation which I have received of His Lordship's arrival in Canada, I shall direct the Sect'y of the Province to execute the summons, and to receive His Lordship's further commands thereon. Capt'n. Talbot setting off on a sudden for the purpose of soliciting Your Lordship's leave to join the Regiment to which he is promoted in Ireland, I am obliged to postpone the transmitting to Your Lordship a list of the names of such Gentlemen as I offer to your Consideration for Commissions in the Canadian Corps.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

MEMORANDUM BY WILLIAM JARVIS.¹

On the 12th of January I called on Governor Chittenden at his house in Williston on Onion River and spent that night with him in company with Colonel Fay, (his private Secretary and Secretary of the State) in the Course of the Evening the Conversation turned on the War in Europe. When Governor Chittenden expressed a very great disapprobation of the popular measures in France "that if Congress takes a part in the War in favor of France I am sure Vermont will never accede to it but will make the best bargain they can for themselves (addressing himself to me) I beg you will give my Compliments to Governor Simcoe and tell him that the Governor and Council of Vermont are of the same Opinion that they were in the year 1781 when Colonel Fay was three weeks on board a King's Vessel in Lake Champlain negotiating a union with Canada &c., &c. when the News of Lord Cornwallis's misfortune reached Vermont and suspended the negotiation and finally put an end to it. That Vermont has nothing to gain by entering into a Combination to defend the sea Coasts, on the contrary everything to lose—their Commerce (through Canada) ruined, their whole Country open to inroads of the British Indians &c."

The 14th of January I called on General I. Allen² at Colchester and on Colonel Allen³ at Fairhaven both of whom were concerned in the negotiation of 1781 who informed me that Vermont still adhered to their former sentiments with regard to their Union.

J.G.S.

Endorsed:—In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's (Private) of the 5th August, 1794. (1)

¹ William Jarvis, born in Connecticut, 1756; cornet in Queen's Rangers, 1777-83; appointed Secretary and Registrar of Records for the Province of Upper Canada, 1792. His wife was a daughter of the Reverend Samuel Peters.

² Ira Allen.

³ Ethan Allen.

EXTRACT FROM THE DAILY ADVERTISER, DATED NEW YORK,
SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1794. VOL. X. NO. 2917.

NEW YORK, June 21.

Whatever be the fact, respecting the report of an Action between the Americans and British, in Vermont, such an event may be expected, unless vigorous measures are pursued to restrain the just resentment of our Countrymen. It is hoped that hostilities will be suspended until Government shall authorize them, but the indignation of Americans, tho' it may be smothered, will not subside, till the Acts of aggression on the part of the British troops shall be totally repressed.

The ground of the dispute between the Vermonters and the English we understand to be this—Before the independence of the United States, sundry grants of land had been made, by the Crown of Great Britain, near the Canada Line, to such Persons as would settle on the land granted. Some settlements have been made under those Grants. After the declaration of Independence, and after Vermont had erected itself into a Sovereign State, the legislature made sundry new grants of the same lands to other persons.

By the treaty of 1783, these lands fell within the jurisdiction of the United States. This is an agreed point, but the British Government insists on the right of protecting the royalists or settlers under the royal grants. For this purpose they have stationed small garrisons within the United States. The Vermonters claim both the soil and the jurisdiction. Both parties seem to be wrong—the British for claiming the jurisdiction—the Vermonters for claiming the soil. So stands the dispute, but we hope it may be settled without the terrible Alternative of resorting to Arms.

Endorsed:—In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's (Private) of the 5th Augt. 1794.

A PROCLAMATION.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, NAVY HALL.

GEORGE THE THIRD, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth.

WHEREAS, by certain information it appears, that several Persons in the night of the 31st of May last, about Eleven o'clock, passed by the Garrison of Niagara, in a boat or batteau, carrying with them, as it is presum'd Contraband Goods; and upon being hailed by the Centinel, refused to return an answer:—Whereupon Serjeant Thomas Lawson, of the 5th Regiment of Foot, and a party of Privates of the said Regiment, were dispatched to stop the said Boat or Batteau, and detain the persons till further enquiry should be made. And whereas it appears that the persons, or some, or one of them, upon being again challenged by the said Serjeant Lawson, not only refused to come ashore, but fired upon the said Serjeant and on his party, and again in a short time afterwards fired a second time in defiance of the Laws, and in contempt of the Peace of our Lord the King. Now I do hereby give Notice, that if any person or persons will give information to any one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, of the said Party, or any of them that were in the said Boat, or Batteau, so that they, or any of them, may be brought to Justice; or if any one or more of the said party will give information to any one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, of the person or persons that fired as aforesaid

upon the said Serjeant and his Party, so that they may be bro't to punishment, he or they shall receive upon conviction of the Offender or Offenders, the sum of £50.0.0. *Quebec Currency*; And if the informer or informers should have been of the said party in the said Boat or Batteau, other than the person or persons that fired as aforesaid, he or they shall receive the King's Pardon, upon such information and conviction as aforesaid, besides receiving the above Reward. GIVEN under my Hand and Seal, this 21st of June, 1794.

JOHN GRAVES SIMCOE.

Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief
of the said Province.

FROM LORD AUCKLAND TO LORD GRENVILLE.

Private.

BECKENHAM, June 22, 1794.

I feel it right to send you an extract from a letter of Mr. Elliot, heretofore Lieutenant-Governor of New York.

"I have known Mr. Jay's character intimately from his outset in public life. He was originally under me in adjusting some boundary lines of the Provinces. He has good sense and much information; has great appearance of coolness, and is a patient hearer with a good memory. He argues closely, but is longwinded and self-opinioned. He can bear any opposition to what he advances, provided that regard is shown to his abilities. He may be attached by good treatment, but will be unforgiving if he thinks himself neglected; he will expect to be looked up to, not merely as American agent, but as *Mr. Jay*, who was in Spain, who has been high in office from the beginning. On the whole they could not have made a better choice, as he certainly has good sense and judgment, both of which must have been mellowed since I saw him; but almost every man has a weak and assailable quarter, and Mr. Jay's weak side is *Mr. Jay*."

(Historical Manuscripts Commission, Dropmore Papers, Vol. II, p. 578.)

FROM JOHN JAY TO GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Dear Sir:

LONDON, 23d June, 1794.

My letter of this date to Mr. Randolph¹ contains an exact account of the present state of affairs of my mission here. I shall be disappointed if no good should result. As yet, the minister stands entirely uncommitted. From some light circumstances I incline to believe that our mercantile injuries will be redressed; but how or how far I cannot conjecture. My next conference will doubtless place things in more particular and clearer points of view.

Mr. Gordon² has information, which he *relies* upon, that the posts will not be

¹Edmund Randolph, Secretary of State.

²Probably Reverend William Gordon, author of a "History of the rise, progress and establishment of the Independence of the United States of America," London, 1788. He was then living in England.

surrendered, and he authorizes me to tell you so in confidence. His information does not make so strong an impression on my mind as it does on his; it merits attention, but, in my opinion, is not *conclusive*.

The observations I have hitherto made induce me to believe that the war with France is popular, and that war with us would be unpopular. The word *Jacobin* is here a term of reproach, and used as such among the common people. They who wish the reform of this government do, I apprehend, wish a certain degree of success to the present French cause, not because they like it, but because they think such success would promote their favourite objects. I often hear gentlemen converse on these subjects, but I think it prudent to be reserved; as to their internal parties and divisions, I make it a rule to remain silent.

Your administration is greatly commended. The idea entertained by some, of applying private debts to compensate public injuries, alarms and disgusts, and impairs credit. I am anxious to have it in my power to communicate something decisive. As yet, I am entirely satisfied with the minister.

I ought to add that Mr. Pinckney's¹ conduct relative to me corresponds with my ideas of delicacy and propriety.

P.S.—The enclosed copies of a note of the 19th inst. from Lord Grenville, and my answer, afford indications of his present temper, that will not escape you. It is always useful to communicate such papers, but seldom useful to publish them. Publication, unnecessarily and frequently made, must naturally increase reserve and circumspection to such a degree as, in a great measure, to exclude the advantages of confidence and conversation, and to confine negotiation to the slow and wary mode of written communications, written too under the impression and expectation of publication.

Your affectionate servant,

JOHN JAY.

(The Correspondence and Public Papers of John Jay, Vol. IV, pp. 26-8.)

FROM JOHN JAY TO EDMUND RANDOLPH.

LONDON, 23d June, 1794.

Sir:

On the 15th I arrived here, and the same day mentioned it by letter to Lord Grenville. He had appointed the 18th for my reception, and I then communicated to him my first commission and left with him a copy of it. This was a visit of ceremony, and nothing passed between us relative to the objects of my mission. The next day I sent him copies of my letter of credence.

On the 20th I had an interview with him by his appointment; and I have communicated to him my general power, of which I have since sent him a copy. Much general conversation took place and the principal topics were touched upon. His Lordship did not commit himself on any point; he heard me very patiently and politely. He promised to appoint a short day for another conference, and I took my leave impressed with sentiments favorable to his character and manners. If his disposition be hostile, he conceals it admirably. What will be the decision of the court I will not venture even to conjecture. As yet, I have no reason to be dissatisfied, or to consider appearances as being unfavorable. No delays, or arts to procrastinate, have been practised.

It is to be wished that no intelligence of an irritating nature may arrive from

¹ Thomas Pinckney, United States minister in England.

America. I do not regard preparations for war as of that nature. They ought not, in my opinion, to be neglected or delayed in the most profound state of peace.

I shall not omit any opportunity of giving you such information as will enable you to see precisely the state of the negotiation, and shall endeavour to avoid deceiving you, or myself, by delusive hopes or groundless fears.

I have the honour to be, &c.

JOHN JAY.

(Correspondence and Public Papers of John Jay, Vol. IV, pp. 28-9)

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO J. G. SIMCOE.

QUEBEC, June 23rd, 1794.

Sir:

The plan of the gunboats proposed to be built at Kingston to replace those that had been converted to other uses, was enclosed for such alterations as you might think proper to make; therefore the order did not go through the Deputy Quarter Master General, but was sent to you that you might immediately give your directions to the Assistant Storekeeper there, who would carry the same into execution, transmitting, agreeably to his instructions an estimate of the expence, which as they have been ordered by me, I shall direct to be defrayed out of the Military Chest, but the system of Gun Boats proposed as the commencement of a Marine Establishment and recommended to co-operate with the Militia in the defence of the Province, I consider as altogether Provincial, and as such to be accordingly provided for.

I have given directions for four field pieces with side arms complete, four tumbrils, two thousand muskets, and a proper proportion of ammunition (as per return enclosed) to be immediately forwarded to Kingston to be disposed of as you shall think of most advantage to the King's Service. I am with regard, Sir, &c.

DORCHESTER.

Col. Simcoe.

FROM FRANCIS LE MAISTRE TO J. G. SIMCOE.

QUEBEC, 23rd June, 1794.

Sir:

Lord Dorchester commands me to acquaint you he understands that a French Priest named Le Dru¹ of the Dominican order has lately come to Michilimackinac, having passed the last Winter at St. Joseph, prior to which he has resided at Kaskaskias for the space of two years and quitted it last autumn on account of a quarrel with the Spanish Commandant. It being probable that by the time this letter reaches you he may be on his way down His Lordship desires you will be pleased to order that he should again depart.

It has been thought proper not to admit French subjects into this Province, experience having shewn they are not to be trusted but come in with a view of spreading sedition and alienating the affections of the people. Those who come into Upper Canada can have, it is supposed, no other motives, and as there is no discriminating of characters His Lordship thinks their entry should be entirely

¹ Jacobin Le Dru, a Dominican priest sent by Bishop Carrol of Baltimore to Kaskaskia in Illinois in 1789. He was soon afterwards induced by the Spaniards to remove to St. Louis where he remained until the spring of 1794.

prevented. The Priest in question in his way through Detroit may have already inculcated unfavorable opinions.

It is said a Canadian in his own defence killed an Indian last year at the Rivière au Raisin and satisfied his relations by covering the dead body. Likewise that a man and woman, both Indians were murdered at the same place this Spring and that the murderers escaped; also that an English Seaman returning from St. Joseph killed the Indian who had served him as a guide near Detroit and that he was in custody there. These acts of violence, it seems, have much exasperated the Nation to whom the deceased belonged, and that a retaliation is apprehended, but His Excellency is convinced that you have taken the necessary steps to prevent as much as possible these outrages and to secure peace and good order in those parts, and doubts not that you will also enforce the strictest attention to stop the traffic in rum with the Indians, which the Nations at the Glaize still complain of.

I am, &c.

Colonel Simcoe.

FRAN. LE MAISTRE, M.S.

GENERAL RETURN OF THE MILITIA, PROVINCE OF UPPER CANADA.

Districts.	Countys.	Battalions.	Independent Comp'y	Colonels.	Lt. Colonels.	Commissioned Officers.				Staff.		Non-Com'd Officers & Privates.	
						Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Adjutants.	Quar. Masters.	Sergeants.	Rank & File.
Eastern	Glengary.....	1	....	1	1	1	7	10	10	1	1	20	440
	Stormont.....	1	....	1	1	1	8	10	10	1	1	20	400
	Dundas.....	1	....	1	1	1	6	8	8	1	1	16	270
	Grenville.....	1	....	1	1	1	6	8	8	1	1	16	300
	Leeds.....	1	....	....	....	....	2	4	4	1	1	16	320
	Total.....	5	....	2	4	4	29	40	40	5	5	88	1,730
Midland	Frontenac.....	1	....	....	1	1	4	4	4	1	1	8	172
	Prince Edward.....	1	....	....	1	1	4	6	6	1	1	12	192
	Lenox.....	1	....	1	1	1	6	8	7	1	1	20	366
	Addington.....	1	....	....	1	3	3	4	1	1	1	10	210
	Hastings.....	....	3	....	....	....	3	3	3	....	....	6	134
	Total.....	4	3	1	2	4	20	24	24	4	4	56	1,074
Home	Lincoln.....	4	....	1	4	4	23	24	24	4	4	60	828
	Total.....	4	....	1	4	4	23	24	24	4	4	60	828
Western	Essex.....	1	....	....	1	1	8	19	10	1	1	20	416
	Kent.....	2	....	....	2	1	9	12	10	2	2	34	668
	Total.....	3	....	....	3	2	17	31	20	3	3	54	1,084
	General Total....	16	3	4	13	14	89	119	108	16	16	258	4,716

(Signed) H. McDONELL, Adj. Gen. Militia.

NEWARK, 23d June 1794.

N.B. No Militia Man in the above Return above 50 years of age.

FROM ISRAEL CHAPIN TO ANDREW ELLICOTT.

Copy of a letter from Israel Chapin, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Six Nations to the commandant at Le Boeuf.

PRESQUE ISLE, Tuesday 24th June, 1794.
3 o'clock p.m.

Dear Sir,

I have just arrived at this place with a deputation from the Six Nations consisting of sixteen chiefs and warriors, with a message we were desired to deliver to some people whom they supposed were here. I thought it most consistent to inform you of my arrival and that I shall be at Le Boeuf to-morrow at 2 o'clock with this deputation.

I am, &c.

ISRAEL CHAPIN, Superintendent of the Six Nations.

(Printed in the Gazette of the United States of Philadelphia, 17 July, 1794.)

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, June 25th, 1794.

My dear Sir:

Since my last by the Dunmore no intelligence of any consequence has reached me. Captain Stiell's letter by the return of the Gun Boats was dated the 18th Inst. Colonel McKee did not write by that opportunity. Captain Stiell mentions that Lieutenant Pilkington and the detachment at Fort Miamis are indefatigable in constructing the Fort directed by Your Excellency but that they did not consider it in sufficient forwardness to receive the Six Pounders I sent him, therefore directed them to be landed at Turtle Island, where the block and store houses directed, are completed, and a Sergeant's guard left. I think Captain Stiell was over cautious as with such a Force of Indians in his front he had little to apprehend for some time, and he writes that in a few days he expects to be prepared to receive all the cannon and stores directed for his Fort.

I expect hourly to hear from him, and also expect Lieutenant Adye to begin on some repairs proposed for this unfortunate Post. I send off the Chippawa and detain the Felicity to send you the first intelligence that reaches me from the Indian Country, from whence I think it is natural to expect something interesting shortly. The Indians, by my last accounts, exceed Seventeen Hundred, and several bands have since passed here, and this day more arrived from Mackinac. I defer sending provisions to that Post till you inform me with your decision relative to withdrawing or continuing the Force now there. If you have come to any determination it will be necessary to know it soon, in order that provisions may be sent there accordingly.

When Mrs. England's situation will allow me I propose to pay a short visit to Fort Miamis, though I am anxious not to be out of the way in case you should find it necessary to call on this Post for any assistance for whatever may be considered necessary by you.

I am, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency Lieutenant Governor Simcoe.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, June 25th, 1794.

Sir:

Late this evening I received a letter from Captain Doyle in which, after introducing and recommending to my care some Chiefs and warriors just arrived from Michilimackinac, he mentions the paragraph that I have extracted for Your Excellency's information.

Captain Doyle is, I understand, very popular among the Indians in his neighbourhood, but he requires to be kept in a little, lest his zeal should carry him beyond the bounds of prudence and discretion, in the contest now between the Indians and the United States.

I have the honor to be, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency, Lieutenant Governor Simcoe.

FROM C. T. A. SCHOEDDE TO E. B. LITTLEHALES.

FORT ONTARIO, 27th June, 1794.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that Generals Steuben and Gansevoort and a Major North of the United States are arrived at the Salt Works of Onondago to lay out fortifications there and the Big Sodus. Captain Walton acquaints me that the Onondago people threaten still an attempt on this Post and that they have been supplied with powder from New York.

I have ordered all the wood within range to be cut down and palisades to be provided to replace those which are decayed.

Estimate of expences agreeable to General Orders of 29th of May last I have transmitted to Head Quarters, Quebec.

Permit me Sir, to represent that owing to the smallness of my Garrison, and to the dangers which surround it, I dare not send out parties to cut wood for the winter as it cannot be procured at a less distance than five miles from the Fort.

A boat with goods for Mr. Street¹ has been stopped by the Preventive Officer for want of a pass. Mr. Street, living near Head Quarters, ought to have been acquainted with the regulations. I have therefore not interfered, but the goods shall remain here till further orders.

I have the honor to be, &c.

C. T. A. SCHOEDDE.

Capt. 60th, Commanding.

Major of Brigade E. B. Littlehales.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM FORT LE BOEUF, DATED JUNE 29th, 1794.

In my last letter to you from Pittsburgh I mentioned that you might expect to hear from me both from Fort Franklin and Le Boeuf but from a variety of circumstances no opportunity occurred of writing from the first. On my arrival

¹Samuel Street of Niagara.

there the place appeared to be in such a defenceless situation that with the concurrence of Captain Denny and the officer commanding at the Fort, we remained there some time and employed the troops in rendering it tenable. It may now be considered as defensible, provided the number of men is encreased. The garrison at present consists of twenty-five men, one half of whom are unfit for duty, and it is my opinion that double that number would not be more than sufficient, considering the importance of the safety of the settlements on French Creek. At Fort Franklin General Wilkins and myself wrote to the Cornplanter to attend there, that we might have an opportunity of explaining to him the nature of our business, and of obviating any difficulties that might arise in our proceedings, however, he did not come as was expected, having gone some days before to a council of the Six Nations at Buffaloe.

With this letter you will receive a copy of their message, presented by General Chapin and Mr. Johnson to Captain Denny and myself, with our reply to the same. I leave to yourself to consider the propriety of a British agent attending a considerable number of Indians with a superintendant of Indian affairs of the United States to order the people of Pennsylvania to remove from those lands which had been ceded to them by treaty by the King of Great Britain and since that time regularly purchased from the Six Nations and punctually paid for. After repairing Fort Franklin we proceeded to this place, and are now beginning to strengthen the works here so as to render it a safe deposit for military and other stores, and in doing which agreeably to instructions œconomy shall be strictly attended to.

The line described by the Indians on the map, will take from the State of Pennsylvania the Cassewago settlement, being part of the purchase of 1784, and the whole of the purchase of 1788. But with respect to this claim, they can be serious only so far as encouraged by the British agents, and the countenance shewn them by the late interference of the United States.

The objection made by Brant to Gen. Chapin that the establishment at Presqu'Isle would cut off the communication between the Six Nations and the western hostile Indians, and thereby diminish their mutual strength, is the strongest argument that can be urged in favor of that establishment. Gen. Chapin and myself are of opinion that all difficulties between the State of Pennsylvania and the Six Nations might be accommodated by treaty—which treaty ought not to be held in the neighbourhood of any post occupied by the British, the United States or this State at present, and that Presqu' Isle is the most eligible place for such a treaty.

(Unsigned but undoubtedly written by Andrew Ellicott.)

(Printed in the New York Daily Gazette, 19 July, 1794.)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NIAGARA, June 30th, 1794.

My Lord:

I do myself the honor of transmitting a letter of Capt'n. Schoedde's, Commandant at Oswego, together with two enclosures.

In respect to Mr. Williamson's expressions, who has always intimated to me

his intentions of building a Vessel at the Sodus, I enquired of Mr. Bertzie, who is at this place, whether he gives any credit to the report? He says he does not think it unlikely, from Mr. Williamson's expressions, who has always intimated that he will obtain the free trade of the Lakes. It was designed to build Vessels in case of hostilities somewhere opposite Kingston, I presume Hungry Bay.

Mr. Bertzie, on my questioning him what pecuniary advantages or prospect of trade could induce Mr. Williamson to undergo such an expence, said that he apprehended somehow or other, it might be of consequence in the fur trade; the smuggling of which is carried on in the most scandalous manner by persons of all descriptions in this Province.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

NIAGARA, June 30th, 1794.

Officers recommended to Lieut. Govr. Simcoe and whom he offers to Lord Dorchester, as proper for Commissions in the proposed Canadian Regiment, agreeably to the qualifications required by His Lordship.

Capt. John McDonnell, on the half pay of Sir John Johnson's Corps, and Speaker of the House of Assembly, to be Major.

Capt. William Caldwell.	}	Captains.
Lt. Justus Sherwood.		
Capt. Elliott, Ind. Dept.		
Capt. William Johnson. do.		
Capt. P. Drummond.		
Lieut. H. McDonnell.		
Lieut. H. Spencer, M.P.	}	Lieutenants.
Frs. Baby, M.P.		
Alex. W. Miller.		
Hector McLean.		
Capt. McDonnell.		
Ens. J. Butler.		
Henry Hay.		
Ens. Skiffington.		
Miles McDonnell.		
Timothy Thompson.		
William Crawford.		
Edwd. Jessop.		
Late Vol. Cy. Anderson.		
W. Gregerson. ¹		
Wm. Grant.		
A. McDonnell.		
Peter Grant.		
Mr. McDonnell.		
Thos. Trader.		
Jos. Herkemer.		
Henry Hay.—Quarter Master.		

¹ Or McGregor.

FROM ALEXANDER McKEE TO JOSEPH CHEW.

RAPIDS, 30th June, 1794.

Dear Sir:

My own small boats, which are indispensable for the communication between this place and Detroit are so much shattered by long and hard service that I now find them dangerous to go on the Lake; and as I cannot get any to purchase as I have heretofore done at my own expence, I must request the favour of you to apply to His Excellency the Commander in Chief for his permission and direction to have a light Batteau built for me in the yard at Detroit suitable for this service.

With great regard and sincerity

I am, &c.

A. McKEE.

Joseph Chew, Esq.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, July 1st, 1794.

My Lord:

I do myself the honor of transmitting to Your Lordship the enclosed list of Officers who seem most likely to be of public service in the raising and disciplining of a Canadian Corps. Should Your Lordship be inclined to confer the rank of Lt. Colonel, it is presumed that Mr. A. McKee will come under Your Lordship's Consideration.

In recommending Captn. McDonnell for the majority, I do it under the apprehension that he is the most proper person for that appointment upon all considerations within this Province.

I have inserted the name of Mr. Baby, because I esteem it of very great consequence to engage a Canadian Company if possible at Detroit; this Gentleman is at this time absent, but his brother, a most respectable member of the Executive Council, seems to think that a sufficient number of Canadians might be obtained, in particular if their Service was limited to four or five years, and that they were not to be removed far from their places of residence. I think it proper to state this circumstance to Your Lordship. I offer Captn. Elliott and Captn. Johnson of the Indian Department, upon principles which in a former letter I have communicated to Your Lordship.

I think it very possible that Capt. Sherwood and Mr. Spencer, one of the most respectable Members of the House of Assembly, and Lt. of the County of Lennox, would raise their Companies from the States. The bounty is great, but I scarcely believe it will be a sufficient temptation for persons to enlist, as the pay is by no means adequate to the wages given for every species of labourers, and the Province is not so populous as to afford sufficient numbers of recruits, which without regard to the price of wages are to be obtained from larger communities.

Ensign Hay is the son of the late Lieut. Governor of Detroit. McGregor of that place, who in a various manner, it has been represented to me, has been of public service.

The Officers are named principally by Gentlemen of the Legislature, who know them.

I presume the half pay Officers will take rank either as Subalterns or Captns. in their Corps from the dates of the former Commissions which they respectively held.

It is by no means easy to make any sort of computation what number of men may be raised in this Province.

I enclose to Your Lordship as particular a return of the Militia as can be collected. I gather from the several Officers that they are totally unarmed, the Canadian Inhabitants excepted, who have their own fowling pieces. The Militia Act exempted Soldiers above fifty years of age from Service. As this Clause deprived the Province of many of its best Soldiers, and opened a door for those to elude the compliance with the Act, it is now under a repeal.

The Districts are by no means accurately stated, the Adjutant General has communicated many animadversions on the Subject, but I trust that in a short time the returns will become more regular and precise. I am perfectly of his opinion that the present return is deficient by some hundreds; particularly I believe so in this District, with which I am best acquainted.

I beg to enclose a letter I have just rec'd, from a very respectable Gentleman, Mr. McLean, for Your Lordship's perusal.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, July 1st, 1794.

My Lord:

— Colonel Butler has brought to me an account which Mr. Coffin has declared to be inadmissible, and which I do myself the honor of enclosing to Your Lordship. It has been observed upon that Colonel Butler's pay has been directed to be stopped by Your Lordship till it is satisfactorily explained by him.

Upon Colonel Butler's representation to me that his income was not equal to the standing expences incident to his office, and totally insufficient to extraordinary ones, and in consequence, requesting that I would give him authority to procure some stores for the table, which he must necessarily keep at Sandusky, where he was going on the most important and critical business, I acquiesced in his desire, thinking it highly reasonable, and believing that the representations of the incompetency of his salary were strictly true.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

July 3rd, 1794.

My Lord:

I do myself the honor of forwarding to Your Lordship the enclosed letter from Captain Pratt, which will explain the situation of the Indians and this Province as far as Presqu' Isle may be of consequence.

Mr. Williamson is proceeding at Sodus. I enclose extracts from the late Intelligence I have received from Lieut. Col. England and Col. McKee.

Lieut. Col. England states the amount of the Indians assembled to be at least sixteen hundred.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM HENRY DUNDAS TO J. G. SIMCOE.

WHITEHALL, 4th July, 1794.

Lt. Govr. Simcoe.

No. 6.

Sir:

I have received and laid before the King Your letters numbered 21 and 22, with their respective Inclosures.

I very much approve of the very prudent and pacific line of Conduct which you have adopted, in consequence of General Wayne's supposed approach to the vicinity of Detroit.

This Circumstance, added to the disunion which has been effected of the Indians, altho' it increases the difficulty does not by any means lessen the actual necessity of avoiding, if possible, proceeding to extremities, at a moment when it is to be hoped, that the presence of Mr. Jay, who is now here, may lead to a final termination of all disputes and a perfect good understanding between this Country and the States of America.

I am well aware that the consequence of Detroit may be affected without the Post itself being actually molested; but you will always bear in mind that the *immediate* protection of the Post itself, is the only object to be attended to. It may not be improper, whilst on this Subject, to inclose to you an extract from my Answer to Lord Dorchester's Suggestions dated the 17th July, 1793, so far as the same relates to the light in which the Posts on the American side of the Treaty Line are to be considered.

Having said this much I feel it quite unnecessary to add anything further on the Subject, especially as, in selecting the Places which you Propose to occupy in Upper Canada you seem perfectly well aware of the necessity of Conducting His Majesty's Service in that Province, upon a principle, that the Posts on the American side of the Treaty Line can only be considered as Temporary Objects; a final arrangement with the United States of America, in all probability, leading to their evacuation.

Your Observation in No. 22 upon the Chippewas being invited with the other Indians to the Conference at Venango, is exceedingly proper, and thoroughly evinces the expediency there is, on our part, both for preserving the attachment of those Indians, who are within His Majesty's Provinces; & for securing their fidelity, by occupying such places, as may render them most dependent on His Majesty's Government, and tend most to enable us to preserve with them, both a political and commercial connection.

I am, Sir, &c.

HENRY DUNDAS.

Endorsed:— Draft. To Lt. Govr. Simcoe. July 1794.

FROM HENRY DUNDAS TO J. G. SIMCOE.

WHITEHALL, 4th July, 1794.

Lt. Govr. Simcoe.
Separate.

Sir:

I have attentively perused the Report contained in your Letter of the 23rd of February last respecting the mode of defence laid down for both the Canadas, and I shall with great satisfaction take the advantage of submitting it, as far as may be necessary to the Consideration of His Majesty's Confidential Servants.—With respect to such parts of the Report, as relate to the defence of Upper Canada, you are already in a great measure acquainted with my Opinions, and I have only to refer you to my Letters dated the 2d Octr, 1793, and the 16th March and 11th May, 1794. As many suggestions, contained in your Report, are essentially connected with the Question now under discussion with the United States, relative to the Forts, I shall not fail to avail myself of the information the Report contains, in the progress of those discussions, and shall from time to time convey to you, such directions, as may thence become requisite.

Your Letter and Inclosure of the 28th of February last, is in every respect satisfactory, and you may rely upon my attending to the wishes you have therein expressed relative to Captain Stephenson's suggestions, who I am confident acted as he did, at least with very good intentions, and I must add that several of the suggestions that he proposed merited my Attention, independent of coming under the sanction, as they did, of your name.

I am, &c.

HENRY DUNDAS.

Endorsed:—Draft. To Lt. Govr. Simcoe. July 1794. Separate.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NIAGARA, UPPER CANADA, DATED
THE 4th JULY (1794).

We are in daily expectation of hearing of something being done betwixt General Wayne and the Confederate Indians, as there are great numbers of the latter come from Michilimackinac to reinforce those already acting against the former. There is some noise at present among the Six Nations, owing to the Americans building a Fort near Presqu'Isle. A party was sent to order them off but they refused going—General Chapin went along with them and when they came to the Fort they fired some cannon and all their small arms by way of a salute, and the same when departing. They have returned and are now holding a council at Buffalo Creek. Most people think they will go and reduce it by force; a thing so near the seat of Government must be productive of some serious events—perhaps too serious. Our fort at the Miami is almost built, and the double line at this fort comes on very well; there are an hundred men daily employed on the fortifications and the Queens Rangers are crossing over from York, (a town in Upper Canada.) There are two Battalions to be raised, one in Lower and one in Upper Canada, and all the regiments in the country are recruiting. New York Diary, July 30, 1794.

(Reprinted in the Gazette of the United States of Philadelphia, July 31, 1794.)

ADVERTISEMENT FOR RECRUITS.

His Majesty's Garrison of Niagara.

TEN GUINEAS

BOUNTY Money will be given to all Gentlemen Volunteers, who are willing to enlist themselves in His Majesty's 5th Regiment of Foot now in the Garrison of Niagara on being approved of at the Head Quarters of the Regiment, they will be Clothed, accoutred, victualled and paid agreeable to His Majesty's Regulations.

Active men such as are fit for Service, not less than 5 feet 5 inches high, between 16 & 40 years of age, will receive every encouragement at the Garrison, at Forts Erie and Chippawa, at Queenstown Landing and at the Drum Head.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

(Printed in the Upper Canada Gazette, July, August and September, 1794).

TO ALL LOYAL AND GALLANT SUBJECTS.

RECRUITS.

WANTED for His Majesty's 1st American Regiment or Queen's Rangers, of which His Excellency Lieut. Governor Simcoe is Colonel Commandant:

Fifty active young men.

Gentlemen Volunteers shall receive TEN GUINEAS Bounty Money each on their approval at the Head Quarters of the Regiment, enter into free quarters, be clothed, accoutred, victualled and paid agreeable to His Majesty's Regulations, none need apply to Lieut. Brooking at Niagara but such as are perfectly fit for the most active service, at least Five feet four and a half inches high, Healthy and Stout.

(Printed in the Upper Canada Gazette, July, August and September, 1794.)

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO HENRY DUNDAS.

QUEBEC, 5 July 1794.

No. 37.

Sir:

- I have the honor of your Letter marked private of the 9th May. The
- A. inclosed Papers contain the last intelligence I have received from Upper
 - B. Canada, by which it appears that General Wayne's Army is advancing,
 - C. and that the Indians some time in May last, obtained an advantage over
 - D-E. one of his convoys.
 - F. Colonel Simcoe informs me that Lieutenant Colonel England has represented to him that he has no confidence in any assistance he can draw from the Militia in case of an attack upon Detroit, also that the People in the Genesees have stopped some other Passengers at the three River Point; but no attack on Oswego as yet seems to be seriously intended. The firing

reported to have been heard by Captain Baker and his crew, On Lieutenant Brooking's arrival at Oswego was found to have been imaginary.

He further mentions that "the disaffection of the St. Regis and Caghna-waga Indians from the British Interests is universally credited by the gentlemen who reside in their neighbourhood," also, "that it is believed that the People of the United States have already collected Anchors and a considerable quantity of cordage for the purpose of building Craft at Le Boeuf on the road to Presque Isle."

I am with great Respect & Esteem Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant

DORCHESTER.

The Right Honble Henry Dundas.

Endorsed: A—Quebec 5th July 1794. Lord Dorchester R. 20th Sept. No. 37. ans. (Six Inclosures.)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

No. 26.

NIAGARA, July 5th, 1794.

Sir:

I do myself the honor of acknowledging your dispatch of the 16th of March, No. 4. I am most sensibly gratified that my Conduct in respect to the Commissioners of the United States & the American Indians met with your Approbation.

The difficulties of the situation are more easily tolerated than described & consisting of a variety of petty & trifling details cannot, Sir, be communicated by letter with that precision which circumstances possibly may render necessary.

However seeing in an English Newspaper that the propriety of the Conduct of this Government has been questioned in the House of Lords, & knowing that ultimately it may become the subject of particular discussion; I think it proper to communicate to you, Sir, the last Speech which has been delivered on my part to the Six Nations, whose determinations will soon be of material consequence, together with such observations as may be necessary to elucidate this Speech, & which may be considered as a Summary of the transactions of this Government.

It may not be improper to observe, that the original & material aggression of the United States appears to have been their Government immediately changing the relative situation in which the Peace of 1783 had left the contending parties, namely themselves & Great Britain, by endeavouring to possess themselves of the whole of the Indian Territories by fraudulent or by forcible means, & in Consequence by the Annihilation of this intermediate power between them & the British Possessions occasioning the destruction of the whole of the Commerce & endangering the safety of His Majesty's Provinces.

To prove this intended alteration, the Act of Congress for the formation of the New States, & the names given to them by the Committee of which Mr. Jefferson was President are sufficient Evidences.

That it was done by fraudulent means, appears upon the very face of the purchases made from the Indians; & his Majesty's honored name is brought into attaint by the Governors of the Country to give a Sanction to their purposes.

The Fraud consists in the affirmation that the Indian Territory had been given

away as "the Price of Peace." This is the term which Governor Sinclair made use of, & which the Corn Planter on the 9th of February, 1791, intimates in his Speech to the President Washington to be the language of the People, who purchased the Lands from the Indians, & demands from him an Explanation in the following terms,

"What the Commissioners had said about the Land having been ceded to them at the Peace, our Chiefs considered as intended only to lessen the Price, & they passed it by with very little notice, but since that time we have heard so much from others, about the right to our Lands the King gave when you made Peace with him, that it is our earnest desire that you will tell us what it means."

To this & to other material points the President avoids a reply.—I presume, Sir, that you possess the Speech—It was therefore a main object of my Determination the moment I read Governor Sinclair's Speech to do away the effects of it as far as in me lay; I did so to the Indian Nations; & their successive Victories having at various times, extorted from the Government of the States satisfactory Explanations, that His Majesty had not given away their Lands, I used every prudent means in my power to get the Commissioners to consolidate & substantiate the Declaration, but I believe I should have failed of success, had not the Indian Council refusing to admit them to a Conference unless they would explicitly give up the Claims to the ratification of the Treaty of Muskingum, effected by a mixture of fraud & force, rendered it necessary for them to give some further Explanations, that might so far conciliate the Confidence of the Savages as to induce them to admit the Commissioners to a Personal Treaty, without the absolute promise of what they had no authority to grant.

Upon these Considerations, the Commissioners made as they chose to term it, the Concession which tho' I formerly transmitted it to you Sir, in the Body of the Speech, I think it proper to select upon this particular occasion. This Concession establishes the fact that the Government of the United States thro' its former Commissioners had fraudulently made use of the King's Name, to wrest the Lands from the Indian Nations, as was particularly exemplified in the Corn Planters most admirable Speech, (& indeed upon all occasions) and it establishes the fact by the most uncontrovertible Evidence, & in the most uncontrovertible manner, namely that of these Commissioners condemning the Claims & constructions of their Predecessors.

The Answer of the Indians to this Speech & to what the Commissioners called the Concessions therein Contained has been transmitted to you—It is only necessary for me to observe, that so various were the Artifices of the United States, & so successful had their Emissaries been in sowing Jealousies & Apprehensions among the Indians, that it is reasonable to believe had the Commissioners been once admitted to a personal Conference at their Council fire, they would have obtained whatever their Prudence or their Avarice might have inclined them to have demanded.

It rests only for me to observe Sir, that I have always considered an Article of the Treaty of Utrecht to be the only authentic Document that defines the State of the Indians, as far as it respects the European Nations, whose line of Demarcation as limited by themselves for their own mutual Guidance gives to the Indians & their respective traders the most perfect freedom therein, & considers the natives as entirely independent.—In that Spirit I early suggested to the Merchants of Montreal to consider the Question & their opinion I had the honor of transmitting to you from Lower Canada—Gordon's observation in his History of the late War written under the Sanction of Washington is the most desirable Evidence (of what

tho' a matter of notoriety would otherwise be denied) that the Infringement of the stipulated Situation of the Indians on the Part of France was the occasion of the former War,—& indeed both in the Treaty of Fort Harmar, or Muskingum, & with the Cherokees, the United States seem to admit this Article by endeavouring to obviate its effects, in making it an Express Stipulation, that no Persons shall trade with the Nations with whom they are treating, but by the license of the Governors of the United States; a Circumstance which of itself is an aggression as it effects a material change in the Situation of the two Countries, subsequently to the Treaty of Peace.

It may therefore be safely affirmed, that the Establishment of a Government in Upper Canada, was absolutely necessary for the preservation of the British Commerce against the Aggressions of the United States, & I have the satisfaction to believe that had it been delayed another Year not an Indian Nation would have been otherwise than hostile to his Majesty's Subjects, the Consequences of which might have been fatal to the British Empire in America.

I offer these observations Sir, as elucidatory of the Speech delivered by the Major of Brigade Littlehales, & that in case of Hostilities with the United States It may appear as far as respects the Indian Nations, that his Majesty's Government has not been the Aggressors; & well knowing that the use of the Indians which necessity must enforce (tho' as a Military Man I place no dependance on their Assistance) will become the Subject of barbarous Declamation.

I think it not untimely to enclose the Evidence of a very respectable man, Capn. Elliot that these very Indians who have made a resistance against the fraud & force of the United States were at the beginning of the late Rebellion tampered with by the Agents of those who occasioned it, prior to their having been in any Instance offered the Hatchet by the King's Officers & Superintendants.

I have the honor to be with the most perfect Respect, Sir,

Your most Obedient & most humble Servant,

J. GRAVES SIMCOE.

Right Honorable

Henry Dundas,
one of his

Majesty's principal
Secretaries of State.

Endorsed:—Niagara 3d July, 1794.

Lt. Govr. Simcoe.

R. 20th Sept.

No. 26 Ansd.

Three Inclosures.

FROM ALEXANDER McKEE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

RAPIDS, July 5th, 1794.

Sir:

I send this by a party of Saganas,¹ who returned yesterday from Fort Recovery, where the whole body of Indians except the Delawares, who had gone another

¹ From Saginaw Bay, Mich.

route, imprudently attacked the Fort on Monday the 30th of last month, and lost 16 or 17 men, besides a good many wounded.

Everything had been settled prior to their leaving the Fallen Timber, and it had been agreed upon to confine themselves to marking convoys and attacking at a distance from the Forts, if they should have the address to entice their Escort out, but the impetuosity of the Mackinac Indians and their eagerness to begin with the nearest prevailed with the others to alter their system, the consequence of which from the present appearance of things, may most materially injure the interests of these People, both the Mackinac and the Lake Indians seeming resolved on going home again, having completed the belts they carried, with scalps and prisoners and having no provisions there or at the Glaize to subsist upon, so that His Majesty's Posts will derive no security from the late great influx of Indians into this part of the Country, should they persist in their resolution of returning home so soon.

The immediate object of the attack was 300 Packhorses going from this Fort to Fort Grenville, in which the Indians completely succeeded in taking and killing all of them; but the Commanding Officer, Captain Gibson, sending out a Troop of Cavalry, and turning his Infantry out in front of his Post, the Indians attacked them and killed about 50 among whom is Captain Gibson and two other Officers.

On the near approach of the Indians to the Fort the remains of his garrison retired into it, and from the loopholes killed and wounded as mentioned already.

Captain Elliot writes that they are immediately to hold a Council at the Glaize, in order to try if they can prevail on the Lake Indians to remain, but without provisions, ammunition, &c., being sent to that place, I conceive it will be extremely difficult to keep them together.

The Mountain Leader, the Chickasaw Chief, was killed two days before the attack and Wells and May, as I am informed, were both killed on the 30th, with two more Chickasaws; by the reports of three prisoners who were taken, there were 60 Chickasaws with the Army, viz. 20 at Fort Recovery, 40 at Grenville, and that large bodies of Southern Indians were shortly expected to join them.

The bearer of this letter or his reports are not to be depended upon.

With great respect I have the honor to be &c.,

A. McKEE.

Lt. Colonel England.

LETTER FROM MONTREAL TO A PERSON IN NEW YORK.

A letter from Montreal, dated July 5th, to a gentleman in this city (New York) July 23, says:

For this week past they have been carting to Lachine all Governor Simcoe's stores, the best part of which is for his new fort on the Miami. There are 4 very large field pieces and 2000 stand of arms for it. They are recruiting here with a great deal of spirit. In two weeks they have got upwards of 60 recruits. The bounty is 15 and 20 guineas.

(From the Gazette of the United States of Philadelphia, 24 July, 1794.)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

No. 30.

NAVY HALL, the 7th July, 1794.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit a resolve of the Executive Council of this Province, approving of the enclosed table of fees on Grants of Land, which has been notified to the public as having been transmitted to the King's Ministers for his Majesty's confirmation.

Soldiers discharged in this Country & Loyalists, U.E. having their patents free of expence to them, under the Royal Instructions, The Council have recommended that Government should pay half fees to the respective Offices for their trouble on such Grants, none of them extending to a sum beyond what might be paid for half 1200 Acres under the above Table of Fees.

I have the honor to be Sir,

with the utmost respect your most

Obedt. Servant.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Right Honorable Henry Dundas.

Endorsed:—Navy Hall—7th July 1794. Lt. Govr. Simcoe. R. 17th Octr. No. 30. Ansd. 7th Novr. (Three Inclosures.)

FROM JOHN JAY TO ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

LONDON, 11th July, 1794.

My Dear Sir:

I am still unable to say anything decisive relative to the objects of my mission. Appearances continue to be singularly favourable, but appearances merit only a certain degree of circumspect reliance. The delays occasioned by the new arrangement of the ministry cannot be of long continuance. Circumstances must soon constrain them to form some ultimate system relative to the United States; and although I have much reason to hope that it will be favourable to our wishes, yet I confess I am not without apprehensions that certain points not by us to be yielded will occasion difficulties hard to surmount. Personally I have every reason to be satisfied, and officially I have as yet no reason to complain.

Shortly after my arrival I dined with Lord Grenville. The cabinet ministers were present, but not a single foreigner. On Monday next I am to dine with the Lord Chancellor, and on next Friday with Mr. Pitt. I mention these facts to explain what I mean by favourable appearances. I think it best that they should remain unmentioned for the present, and they make no part of my communications to Mr. Randolph, or others. This is not the season for such communications; they may be misinterpreted, though not by you.

I fear the posts may labour, but they must not be left. We must not make a delusive settlement; that would disunite our people, and leave seeds of discord to germinate. I will do everything that prudence and integrity may dictate or permit.

I will endeavour to accommodate rather than dispute; and if this plan should

fail, decent and firm representations must conclude the business of my mission. As yet I do not regret any step I have taken. I wish I may be able to say the same at the conclusion.

Yours affectionately,

JOHN JAY.

5th August.—This letter was inadvertently omitted to be sent when written. Appearances mend—give us a fair chance.

(Correspondence and Public Papers of John Jay. Vol. IV, pp. 29-30.)

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, July 7th, 1794.

Sir:

Within this hour I received a letter from Col. McKee, a copy of which I have the honor to enclose to Your Excellency.

The Indian, who brought this Express, you will perceive, Colonel McKee cautions me against crediting, says most positively that Captain Elliot and all the Lake Indians had returned to the Foot of the Rapids, on their way home before he came away. All of this I must confess I expected they would do, after having struck, even if they were successful. It is much to be regretted that their impetuosity induced them to attack the Fort, their defeat there will be a matter of triumph to the Americans, though it appears that they have suffered considerably.

I send this account express by land, as there is no vessel here but the Ottawa who I reserve for further information that I am led to expect to-morrow from Col. McKee, when she shall sail with a duplicate of the Colonel's dispatch to me, and with any further information that reaches me.

Apprehending that there may not be provisions enough at the Foot of the Rapids I dispatched on the 3rd Inst., a supply in the Felicity, for the Indians, but as Col. McKee does not mention her arrival, I have directed provisions and other articles which he may immediately require to be put on board the Brazen Gun Boat and propose that she shall sail this evening for the Foot of the Rapids.

The wind has persevered for several days at North East, which prevents all communication by water from the Miamis, I have therefore been obliged to send some expresses there by land.

You shall hear more fully by the Ottawa, when I will send you copies of former letters from Col. McKee.

I have the honor to be, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency Lieut. Gov. Simcoe, &c., &c.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LIEUTENANT PILKINGTON TO HIS
EXCELLENCY GOVERNOR SIMCOE, DATED FORT MIAMIS,
7TH JULY, 1794.

In consequence of former alarms here, we encompassed ourselves with an Abbatis of fallen Trees, and now we are accomplishing what is requisite for our defence to be from the Fort; the present state of the Works I will endeavour to give your Excellency some idea of, and with the assistance of the inclosed Plans, to express my future intentions, the general form of the Work and the manner in which the Plan of the outline which I have traced on a Survey of the position. The Plan of the Fort exhibits the disposition of the several Buildings; the Barracks forming a part of the Rampart, and are the lining of it, they are roofed with Logs 12 inches thick, and those on the longer faces of the work, have Loopholes for firing in the reverse. The Bastions have casemated Flanks, and the whole interior part below of each Bastion may be considered as a casemate serving for a secure lodgment of Stores. The Bastions will be somewhat superior to the other parts of the work, and each of their Platforms will be capable of receiving Four Guns, which may be directed variously, each Bastion having six Embrasures. The flat Bastion on the water front I have not raised with Earth higher than the Platform of it, as I purpose the remaining part to be of Log work, as represented in the section, pierced with Loopholes and Port holes, and to have a Machicouli Fire, proposing by this to have a perfect defence for the water front, with a formidable Battery commanding the River and opposite shore, this work being but little advanced, is not exposed to view from either Flank. I have availed myself of a hollow in the ground, before the left face of the Ravelin by making a covered passage under the Glacis for a communication with any work on the adjacent rising ground, and it gives easy and secure access in receiving of Stores into the Fort from the side of the River. The present state of the work is such that in four days from hence the body of the place will consist of an elevated Parapet of Earth, the casemates of the Bastions and Flanks perfectly formed, the whole completely fraised and surrounded by the ditch requisite on the Land side. The Barracks on the water front are in great forwardness and the casemated Flanks ready for receiving Cannon.

The works proposed by Your Excellency for Turtle Island have long since been finished. Only part of the Stores designed for this place, have been deposited there, the principal cause for the whole supply not being sent was I believe the report of the Americans having taken possession of Presqu' Isle. There might have been an impropriety in entrusting too much upon the Island with so few to defend it, while the Americans could approach by the Lake with facility.

I have not lost any time in forwarding the services desired by Your Excellency, but the apprehensions of some, with the ill health of others, have deprived me of so many of the better order of my workmen as to affect my progress materially; Mr. Adye has been for some time at Detroit, endeavouring to obtain more assistance, but as yet without success.

The men belonging to Your Excellency's Corps have been of great service to me, they all experience at this time a state of health we have not been accustomed to here.

Every persuasive argument has been made to prevail on the Indians not to desert their Great Father, and to leave him unprotected by them; but all in vain; they promise a speedy return and the several Nations have left runners at the Rapids to be despatched for them in case of any pressing emergency.

If no circumstance requires my particular attendance here, I purpose taking my departure before the end of the present month.

FROM ALEXANDER McKEE TO JOSEPH CHEW.

MIAMIS RAPIDS 7th July 1794.

Dear Sir:

Early on the morning of the 30th of last month the Indians who had collected a force of about 2000 men took & killed 300 pack horses with about 60 drivers near Fort Recovery; these Horses had been brought the day before the Indians arrived loaded with flour—the escort intended for their return had not quitted the Fort when the attack was made on the Pack Horses but they turned out immediately on hearing the firing & were repulsed with the loss of about 50 men and 25 or 30 Troop Horses; the Indians followed them close to the gates of the Fort which they wanted to storm but met with a check from the Loop Holes of the Block Houses and then retired to a secure distance with the loss of 17 men killed and as many wounded—they kept the same position all that day & the night following, but from the want of provisions and ammunition, were obliged to retire to the Glaize, from whence all the Lake Indians as well as those from Michilimackinac have come hither, those latter cannot be prevailed to remain having accomplished the call of their Belts by Scalps and Prisoners, and are going home again—so that instead of deriving any advantage from these People and those of Sagana, the Indians in this part of the country will feel a sensible diminution of their strength by the example they shew all the other Lake Indians as well as those who are here as those who are expected and whom they must meet on their way home.

I perceive great danger of the security of His Majesty's Posts from the unfortunate separation of the Indians at this period, but having no authority to stop them or to keep the others together by giving them provisions & ammunition over & above the ordinary supply, I have only to lament what may shortly be the probable situation of this country; but that I may not neglect any thing on this occasion which I conceive to be my duty, I request of you to represent to His Excellency the Commander in Chief that there is an absolute necessity of sending Provisions and ammunition to some convenient place in the vicinity of the Glaize, provided His Majesty's Posts are considered by His Excellency objects of Importance.

From the Information I have received the Commanding officer of the Fort and two other officers were killed as was the Chickasaw Chief called the Mountain Leader and two of his men, the Indians took also about 30 head of Cattle about the Fort.

with the greatest Regard I am, &c.

A. McKEE.

Joseph Chew Esqr.

OBSERVATIONS BY ISAAC TODD AND SIMON McTAVISH.

The Merchants in Canada Trading to the Indian Country send their goods from Montreal in the spring of the year to Detroit, Michilimackinac & the Grand Portage; where they meet their Clerks and Traders, who have wintered in the interior Country; receive their Furs & deliver to them British Goods, with which they return to winter again with the Indians.

Goods for this trade which leave London in the Spring of 1794 are sent to the Indian Country in 1795, and their produce in Furs does not come to the above

posts until 1796 so that it requires at least Two years to obtain those returns & get them down to Montreal.

Most of the Posts where the Traders winter are within the Limits claimed by the Americans (part of the Trade from the Grand Portage excepted) & several of the Trading places on the Mississippi are on the Spanish side of that River, & all the Lands in that Country (the Forts and environs excepted) are the property of the Indians & ought in justice to them be declared neutral ground, alike for British & American subjects to trade in, & to pass the posts of each other without restriction or hindrance, but before giving up the Posts, both countries ought to unite to obtain a just & proper Peace between the Americans & Indians, and each to guarantee it & declare their intention to protect the subjects of the other, who may meet with injury from the Indians; For was the Posts to be delivered up, or an intention of doing so made known previous to such arrangement, it's probable the Indians thinking they were to be abandoned by the British, would in resentment, destroy all the Traders in their Country, as also the defenceless Inhabitants in Upper Canada.

In arranging matters with America, should it be concluded to cede them the Posts we now occupy, within the limits prescribed by the Treaty of Paris; it should be held perfectly secret from the Indians until completely settled as before mentioned. And then to allow at least Three years before delivering them up, for the British subjects to regulate their Trade & withdraw such of their property and people as they may deem necessary from the Indian Country.

On delivering up the Posts, particularly that of Detroit, where there is valuable property in Lands & Houses, that property it is presumed will be secured to the present possessors, and as the British & American Posts & Settlements in several places, will be separated only by a River, the navigation of which is free to both, it would be necessary for the credit & good government of each Country that some arrangement should be made that the subjects of either committing Felonies or Crimes or Debtors shou'd not be screen'd or protected by either.

The Furs imported from Canada at the average price of the last 5 years amount to about £250,000 all of which are had From the Indians in exchange for British Manufactured goods—of the above amount there is not more than £100,000 in value comes from the posts of Niagara, Detroit, Michilimackinac & their Dependencies or rather the Country ceded to America by the Treaty of Peace, but owing to some oversight or want of knowledge of the Country Mr. Oswald settling the Line of Separation between the United States and us in passing the falls of St. Marie at the discharge of Lake Superior, allowing them the south side of the River, precludes us from entering the Lake if they choose to prevent us—as the North side is not navigable for such Craft as are used in the Trade & there is no landing place. Likewise at the Grand Portage on Lake Superior (where we carry our goods nine miles over a mountain, till we fall into the Long Lake) it is situated on the American side of the Line, about six miles from the Water Communication; which is inaccessible for a considerable distance on account of Falls & rapids, nor is it possible to make a carrying place on our Side of the Line, the Mountains are so steep. It will therefore be necessary in order to preserve the N. W. Trade to this Country, which is near £100,000 of the exports in furs from Canada, that some stipulations shall be made to continue us in possession of our present establishment at St. Marie and the Grand Portage.

Endorsed:—Observations by Isaac Todd & Simon McTavish, who are interested and represent the principal Houses carrying on ye Northwest & other Indian Trade in the Canadas.

STATEMENT CONCERNING TRADE AT DETROIT AND OTHER POSTS.

The Produce in England of Furs & Skins imported from the Province of Quebec, taking the Trade at the average of the last ten years, amounts to the sum of Two hundred thousand pounds p. annum—which Furs & c. are traded for in different districts as nearly as can be ascertained as under vizt.—

The whole Country & Posts below Montreal.....	£ 30,000
The Grand River, the North side of the Lakes Ontario, Huron & Superior.....	30,000
In the Country generally called the North West*.....	40,000
In the Countries to the Southward of the Lakes, The Trade of which is principally brought to the Posts of Detroit and Michilimackinac, there being very little Indian Trade at Niagara.....	100,000
As above.....	£ 200,000

Altho' there is no Indian Trade of consequence at Niagara, that post is the Key of the Communication to the principal Trade of the Upper Countries of Canada. It is very uncertain whether the Trade to the N. West can be carried on otherwise than by the post of Michilimackinac. The American claim extends to the Lake of the Woods, if admitted they command the present communication from Canada to all that Country & in that case, they will have also the Trade as stated above at £40,000. The Trade last stated at £100,000 is carried on by Traders who go to different districts as under.

In the District of the Garrison of Detroit vizt.

The Fort of Detroit, Sagana, & the South side of Lake Huron.....	1,000
Miamis & Wabash Country.....	2,000
Sandusky.....	400

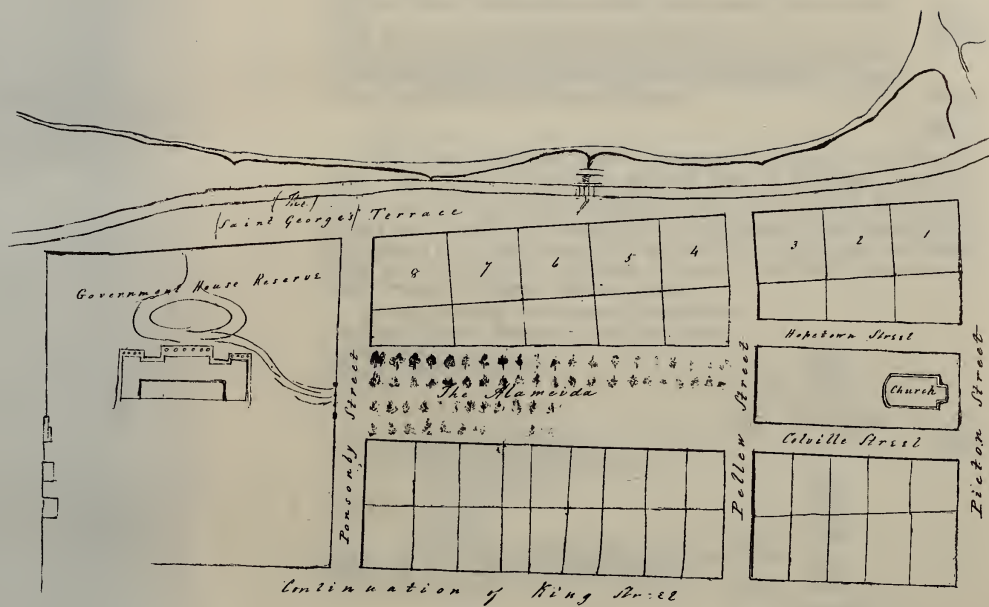
	Say 3,400 packs	
of Furs estimated at £12 each is.....		40,800

In the District of Michilimackinac, vizt.

The Grand River.....	1,100
On Lake St. Josephs.....	300
Michigan Chegago.....	100
Milwaki.....	120
La Bay, or Green Bay, including the upper posts of the Mississippi, the South side of Lake Superior.....	800
The Illinois Country.....	Say 600

	Say 3,020 packs	
Furs estimated at £20 each.....		60,400
		£ 101,200

This Computation exceeds the sum in the General estimate as above £1,200. From this short State of the Indian Trade it appears that if the Country & posts are ceded to America, agreeable to Treaty, 3/10 of the furr Trade of Canada, will only remain for certain to Great Britain, 1/5 is dependent upon contingent circumstances. The remaining half will inevitably be lost. It is true, that probably



Plan of Part of the Town of York, U.C.

3/5 of the Merchandize, necessary for the supply of the Indians, will in any event, be furnished by Great Britain, but the labour of a great number of persons, employed in the Trade from Canada, is of Importance, as well as the Trade with the British Settlers at Detroit, where, the fixt property & cultivation is of considerable Value.

It is presumed that America is not well prepared to Garrison the Forts, to protect the Traders & carry on the Trade with effect, and that dissatisfaction, or Wars with the Indian Nations will be the inevitable consequence of being abandoned by the British Troops.

*Since this estimate was made up in 1790, The Trade to the N. West, estimated then at £40,000, has greatly increased, & in the last two years is supposed to have doubled. The Traders, progressively penetrating further into the Country. The trade at the nearer posts continues with little variation, but must decrease as the Countries settle.

Endorsed:—Communicated by Mr. Inglis of Mark Lane. (July 1794?)

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF UPPER CANADA.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, Wednesday, July 9th, 1794.

Present.

His Excellency John Graves Simcoe, Esqr.

Lieut. Governor, &c., &c., &c.

The Hon'ble Wm Osgoode, Chief Justice—

The Hon'ble Alexr Grant—

The Hon'ble Peter Russell.

The Hon'ble Aeneas Shaw—

Ordered by the Hon'ble Ex. Council That His Excellency John Graves Simcoe, Esq. Lieut. Governor, &c., &c., &c. have a Grant of five Thousand Acres of Land being entitled to the same, as Colonel of the late Queens Rangers—last War.

Resolved,

That the Town of York be Built conformably to the Plan now laid before the Council & marked with the letter () which Plan has been considered & approved of by them, And that every Person taking a Town Lot shall be under an obligation of building an House within the Period of three years from the Date of their Certificate of Location, and in case of non-compliance shall forfeit the same.

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FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, July 9th at Night.

Sir:

On the 7th inst. I received a letter from Col. McKee, a copy of which I immediately dispatched to your Excellency by an express by land, and now send you a duplicate of the Colonel's and my letters, which I transmit accompanied with copies of other letters from Col. McKee, of a previous date, to explain to your

Excellency the movements of the Indians before the unlucky attack on Fort Grenville.

Their obliging Capt. Elliot and all the traders at the Glaize to take the Field with them, and the intelligence Col. McKee received of a large reinforcement having crossed the Ohio, for General Wayne's Army.

I detained the Ottawa a day extraordinary with the hopes of sending Your Excellency the result of the Council proposed to be held at the Glaize, which was to decide whether the Indians were to remain or return home, and late this evening the Felicity arrived at the mouth of this river from the Miamis, and sent up her letters. Among them I find two for Your Excellency from Col. McKee, who no doubt has explained all the particulars of his situation to you, but if I may judge by the number of Indians that every moment arrive here, I am apprehensive they have all separated. I would call them all together and endeavour to prevail on them to return, but imagine such Conduct would not be approved of in the situation both Countries are at present in, those I have spoken to blame the Mackinac Indians for their impetuosity in the attack, which occasioned the rest to go too close to the Fort, it has all the ill consequence of a defeat, without materially weakening the Americans.

The prisoners all agree that General Wayne intended moving forward for this Post at the full of the present moon; say that he has received considerable reinforcements and that his army is in great spirits.

The Fort at the Miamis is not yet in a situation to make a defence, and most of Lieut. Pilkington's artificers have quitted him. Lieut. Adye returns there to-morrow from hence, with such a reinforcement of artificers as this place affords. I have sent a large supply of provisions and other articles to Col. McKee, and he has wrote me for a hundred weight of Vermilion and some hundred weight of Tobacco, which he wishes me to purchase as there are not any in store, but the rigid adherence I am repeatedly directed to observe to the regulations established for the different departments, has hitherto prevented my sending him those articles, though I am sensible that this is not a time to restrict the Indians, and if you authorize me, will direct whatever the Col. wishes to be procured here. The articles he now writes for are scarce and extravagantly dear. Perhaps to remove difficulties you would be pleased to order some Vermilion and Tobacco to be borrowed from the Indian Store at Niagara and sent up in the first vessel, the same quantity may be returned when the supply arrives from Lower Canada.

Captain Stiel has repeatedly sent to me for orders relative to the conduct he is to observe in case of General Wayne advancing in force, and should feel myself much obliged to you for any directions you may consider proper to give me for him.

He states his situation at present very critical, and from circumstances is certain that the Chickasaw Indians and light Troops will shortly be in his neighbourhood. I have said what I conceive proper on the subject, but would be happy to know your orders.

I will see the Indians to-morrow and will, if in my power with propriety, endeavour to prevail on them to return, or perhaps a few of them to give a countenance.

You shall hear from me as soon as anything worth communicating reaches me, and I have hopes that matters may shortly bear a brighter aspect, though Col. McKee and all his department seem in very low spirits.

I am &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

Lt. Gov. Simcoe.

FROM ALEXANDER McKEE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

RAPIDS, July 10th, 1794.

Sir:

I am this moment honored with your letter of the 7th inst., and agreeably to your desire send the express man back without loss of time.

The Mackinac and Saguina Indians and the Pottawatomies have gone home as I expected, notwithstanding their constant promises of remaining, and the other Lake Indians are following their example, yet I have hopes of their soon assembling again, at least the latter Nations, several of their principal Chiefs remaining here for the purpose of sending for them in the first alarm of the approach of the Enemy.

The Nations above will I doubt not be alert and convey the earliest intelligence to them of the motions of General Wayne's Army.

I conceive there would have been little difficulty in stopping all the Indians here, Provided I had been authorized for that purpose, but we must in that case have taken an active share in the contest and become at least auxiliaries in the War.

The want of provisions and ammunition must necessarily occasion so large a body of Indians as was collected, to separate in a short time, these articles should therefore be conveyed to some convenient place within their reach if the security of the King's Posts require that the American force should be arrested in its progress, of this I have taken the liberty to give my opinion, both to the Lieut. Governor and the Commander in Chief.

The steps you have taken on the present occasion to convey provisions to this place are extremely acceptable to me, and call for my best thanks, and you may be assured, Sir, I am sensibly impressed with such marks of your attention to this particular branch of His Majesty's Service.

With the greatest respect, I am, &c.

A. McKEE.

Lt Col. England.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, July 10th, 1794.

My Lord:

I enclose to Your Lordship the result of the Mission, in which, by the desire of the Six Nations, Capt'n. Johnson accompanied Genl. Chapin, the Superintendent of the United States, to Le Boeuf, for the purpose of preventing the People of the United States from settling at Presqu' Isle. I must remark that the insinuations in the Speech which was delivered from Genl. Wayne, that the Chiefs of the Six Nations who died last year at the council held at the Miamis, had been poisoned by the Western Indians, were received with threats to Rosencrantz, the messenger, by some of the Warriors, and with contempt by all.

It is with great surprise that Chapin and the people of the States find the *Corn Planter* so determined to prevent their encroachments: Brant says, that if they advance, the Six Nations will consider it their Answer, and immediately do their best to repel them.

From various considerations, both of my own apprehension, and from the

suggestion of those who are well qualified to judge, I have promised the Corn Planter a pension, and have directed some expences to be incurred in presents to other principal leaders.

Your Lordship may easily suppose that it is with particular anxiety that I wait for accounts from the Western Indians; the last information is that they had assembled at least to the number of 1700 fighting men, and are continually increasing. All those who know them are sanguine of their success against Mr. Wayne. Should such be the case, and should he either be defeated or compelled to abandon his Post from the difficulty of subsistence, from all that I gather of their strength and disposition it appears to be most probable that a very few weeks would suffice to drive back the Post of Le Boeuf, to force the Inhabitants of the Genesseees to abandon that Country, and to establish a Post in such force at Oswego, or in advance of it, as would enable with safety to this Province, a portion of the Troops of this Colony to be posted on the St. Lawrence so as to be ready instantaneously to fall down into Lower Canada, if Your Lordship should deem it necessary.

I enclose for Your Lordship's information the extract of a letter from Captain Schoedde, commanding at Oswego.

I have intimated to the Speaker, Mr. McDonnell, whom I have offered to Your Lordship as Major (or Lieut. Colonel) of the Canadian Corps, that it would not be improper could he wait upon Your Lordship—In conversation he might explain many circumstances relative to the Province that cannot be dilated upon in correspondence. In particular, his residence and influence with the St. Regis Indians may at the present become serviceable; and in respect to the raising of Troops, I have but little doubt, but that the Highlanders will follow him in numbers, and it might appear to me that as Your Lordship in a particular manner turns your views to the defence of the Communication, somewhere near the County of Glengarry, where the McDonnells reside, would be a very proper station for the Quarters of part of the Provincial Corps, which is to be established.

In case Your Lordship should approve of Captns. Johnson and Elliot for Companies, It would among other requests be of service that by their Influence they would procure many people to serve under them, who are accustomed to the Indian life, and who otherwise would attach themselves to the Indians, as a species of volunteers, which on all accounts would be injurious to the public service.

I enclose to Your Lordship a communication which I lately made to Mr. Hammond, of such particulars as I thought might elucidate the discussion in which he is engaged with Mr. Randolph, on the Subject of the Post at the Miamis.—It is with great satisfaction that I enclose to Your Lordship a Gazette of this Province by which you will see that the Legislature has amended the Militia Bill so as to enable me to embark them on board of the Shipping, Gun Boats, or small craft for the defence of the Lakes and Communications.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM JOHN BUTLER TO JOSEPH CHEW.

NIAGARA, 10th July, 1794.

Dr. Sir.

In consequence of some Troops from the State of Pennsylvania taking post at Fort Le Boeuf near Presque Isle, the Six Nations held a Council at Buffaloe creek, at which Mr. Johnston was ordered to attend their proceedings at that place,

together with their proceedings at le Boeuf, on a speech from General Wayne to the Six Nations I now enclose to you.—

We have had no certain accounts from the Westward lately, reports from the States say that Genl Wayne had detached parts of his Army to Kentucky in order to stop an expedition the people of that State were setting on Foot against the Spanish Settlements.

I have also heard that the force of the Confederate Indians to the Westward consists of Upwards of 1500 men, if this is true, I have not the least doubt but they will defeat Mr. Wayne should he leave his Garrisons.—

Mr. William Macomb who left New York the 17th last Month says two English Frigates were there, and seven were on the Coast who were hourly expected in that Harbour, but that no word had arrived from Mr. Jay.—

I am, &c.

JOHN BUTLER.

J. Chew, Esqr.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM MR. THOMAS DUGGAN OF THE INDIAN
DEPARTMENT AT DETROIT TO JOSEPH CHEW S.I.A. DATED
DETROIT 10TH JULY 1794.

“Since my last to you by Mr. Molloy I have had official Accounts of the Indians having had an Engagement at Fort Recovery, that they had taken and killed 325 horses and thirty head of Oxen, and about fifty men including the Mountain Leader, the Chickesaw Chief, Wells & May two Spies, Captain Gibson the Commandant of the Fort and two other Officers, the Mackinaw & Lake Indians by their inclination to go home again seem to think they have made a good Campaign, When in Reality their services are more Wanted than Ever, no less than a hundred and fourteen Mackinac Indians besides Numbers of other Indians from Saguinaw, the Pinery and River La Tranch, arrived here yesterday from the Miami Country, in my next you shall know whether or not we can Persuade them to return to the Glaize, in the Engagement above mentioned the Indians had Seventeen killed, and about the same number wounded, in attempting to Possess themselves of the Fort, not one of them was killed by Gibson’s Party, they were killed by the Garrison in attempting to Rush into the Fort after the pursued.”

MONTREAL 4th August 1794.

a True Extract.

JOSEPH CHEW S.I.A.

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO J. G. SIMCOE.

QUEBEC, July 11, 1794.

Sir:

I can learn nothing concerning the French Emigrants at Albany, nor of the Mr. des Jardins, who solicited your permission to purchase provisions in Upper Canada for a Settlement in that part of the Indian Country called the Genesee. I am inclined to think something insidious was concealed under that application, as well as under the request made by Mr. Williamson. If your information respecting this Gentleman’s vigilance and activity in providing arms for the people on the

Sodus are true, his conduct will appear the more suspicious and extraordinary as they report him to be Agent for Mr. Pulteney in those parts, and that he formerly was a Captain in the 25th Regiment.

Notwithstanding our speedy and full Execution of the Treaty of Peace, on the side of the Atlantic, it soon became evident that the States were not disposed to comply with it where it bound them to certain conditions which they conceived to be contrary to their Interests. We therefore found it necessary to suspend that part of it which related to the Indian Country and the Posts therein, where of course the King's pre-eminence (according to the Laws and Usages established in such cases amongst European Nations) remains as previously, and will continue till the complete Execution of the Treaty by the Government of the United States; when no doubt proper orders will be issued for delivering over, on this side also, whatever they may justly claim in consequence of it. But those gentlemen, urged on by their impatience, and presuming on our desire of Peace, have advanced to put themselves in possession, and now pretend to call the Indian Country their Country, and the privileges granted on conditions which they never performed, their undoubted rights, and the Line designated by the Treaty, their acknowledged Boundary, affecting to consider our re-occupying a Post at the Rapids of the Miamis as War itself. But having nothing to support this language but Force and their own assertions, they want, it would seem, by oblique applications, to draw some of the King's Officers into unguarded Acts or Expressions, which they may hold out as an acknowledgement of their claims, and a justification of their conduct. It was therefore with great propriety that you refused the requests made for Provisions to forward such purposes. Should they persevere in forming an Establishment on any of the Lakes, or near any of our Posts, you will send an intelligent person to make a demand by what Authority the establishment is ordered, and to require them to desist from such Aggressions—In case of refusal, a formal Protest in writing, signed by the Person you send, should be left with the Officer who commands, stating that the parties concerned in these measures will be considered as violating the King's Rights in the Indian Country, and as aiming by these Acts to destroy the Amity and good understanding which has hitherto subsisted between the King of Great Britain and the United States of America.

For further information concerning my Ideas, and in Answer to your desire to have my orders on this head, I must refer you to My letter No. 1, which is all I can say in the present condition of things.

But if after all our forbearance towards the United States, the influence of French intrigue should draw them into a War with us, which is more than probable, I shall be glad to know the extent of your combined powers in Upper Canada, and what force you may be able to assemble for your own defence and preservation; also, how far you may have it in your power not only to repel, but to retaliate any hostile attempts.

I am, with regard, Sir, &c.

DORCHESTER.

PROTEST BY LORD DORCHESTER.

I am commanded to declare that during the inexecution of the Treaty of Peace between Great Britain and the United States and until the existing differences respecting it shall be mutually and finally adjusted, the taking possession of any part of the Indian Territory, either for the purposes of War or Sovereignty, is held

to be a direct violation of His Britannic Majesty's Rights, as they unquestionably existed before the Treaty, and has an immediate tendency to interrupt and in its progress to destroy that good understanding which has hitherto subsisted between His Britannic Majesty and the United States of America. I therefore desire you to desist from any such Aggressions.

DORCHESTER.

FROM THE DUKE OF PORTLAND TO J.^RG.^R SIMCOE.

WHITEHALL, 15th July, 1794.

Lt. Govr. Simcoe.

No. 1.

Sir:

Inclosed I transmit you a duplicate of my letter of this day's date to Lord Dorchester, with a copy of Lord Grenville's letter to Mr. Hammond therein referred to, and in case you should not have previously received Lord Dorchester's orders to conduct yourself in conformity to the directions contained in my within letter to His Lordship, I am to signify to you His Majesty's pleasure that you should forthwith take the necessary steps for fulfilling on the part of H. M. the agreement entered into by Lord Grenville and Mr. Jay as stated in the inclosed letter from me to Lord Dorchester.

I am &c.

PORTLAND.

Endorsed:—Drat. To Lt. Govr. Simcoe. July 1794. (No. 1.)

FROM JOSEPH CHEW TO ALEXANDER McKEE.

My Dear Sir:

My Son William was at Niagara when Capt. Brant and the Deputation from the Nations assembled at Miamis arrived there, and was present when they delivered their Messages or Speeches to the Commissioners from the States, and by means of Capt. Brant got the purport of them, and a Copy of the Commissioners Answer, had not this been the case no account of this Transaction would have been

¹ From June 8, 1791 until August 7, 1794, Henry Dundas had been Secretary of State for Home Affairs, and First Commissioner for India, or practically Secretary of State for India, and as Treasurer of the Navy he controlled its finances. He was at the same time responsible for the conduct of the war. On August 7, 1794, the Duke of Portland took over the Home Office, which thenceforth was limited to British, Irish and Colonial affairs. Dundas became Secretary of State for War, and William Windham succeeded Sir George Yonge as Secretary at War. Yonge was appointed Master of the Mint.

William Henry Cavendish Bentinck, third Duke of Portland, 1738-1809, who was twice prime minister of Great Britain, was educated at Eton and Oxford, and as Marquis of Titchfield sat in the House of Commons from 1760 until 1762, when he succeeded his father as Duke of Portland. He formed a warm political alliance with the Marquis of Rockingham and acted as lord chamberlain in 1765-6. He was appointed lord lieutenant of Ireland in 1782 and was prime minister from April until December, 1783. He afterwards became the recognized leader of the Rockingham Whigs but joined forces with Pitt in 1793. He was elected chancellor of the university of Oxford in 1792, and was Home Secretary from 1794 until 1801, when he became lord president of the Council until 1806. He was again prime minister from 1807 until 1809. As Home Secretary he was distinguished as an efficient and careful administrator, not wanting in broad statesmanlike views.

Rec'd at the Superintendent General's Office. I cannot account for Colonel Butler's omissions. I am perfectly sure the Superintendent General from what he writes to me, expects every information respecting Indian matters will be transmitted to his Office as early as possible and will on his return be displeased if it is not so. I have given him all the matters you have communicated to me, and let him know how very attentive you have been. I still hope to see him this fall, if not it will be early in the Spring.

The late arrival of the Ships and contrary winds, has been a vexatious business to the Merchants & Captains. The Indian goods are not all Landed. I hope they may be in a few days, and as soon as they are got to La Chine, and surveyed, for which I have a warrant, such deficiency in your requisition, as can be made up from this supply, shall be forwarded to you, when I shall give you every intelligence in my power.—

I earnestly wish the American Commissioners may make such offers of a Boundary Line, that may be just and Equitable, and such a one as may be agreeable to the Indians. I confess I have my doubts—by a letter published in a Philadelphia paper from an Officer at Ft. St. Clair dated the latter of April, it appears they were supplying their Posts & very alert, which makes me believe the Indians had good reasons to suspect them of taking advantage of the intended treaty to strengthen those Posts, and I think it will be the Case. There is also a publication in a Philadelphia paper of the 20th of June last, for supplying Rations for the year 1794, at all the Posts and passes in the Indian Country, in which the Field of Action November 1791, the Miami Village, the Rapids, and where the Miami falls into Lake Erie are mentioned, this does not look as if they expected to Relinquish any part of that Country.—

We are impatient for an arrival from London, what European news we have by way of New York, is vague and contradictory, from everything we hear from the States, and from their publications, I really apprehend their unlimited & great partiality to the French, will make them be considered as a party in the dispute, and not as a Neutral Nation. In a little time, we shall be able to form a Better Judgment of their Proceedings, be assured I am &c.

JOSEPH CHEW.

Colo. Alex. McKee.

Endorsed:—without date, Joseph Chew Esqr. Recd 13th Sept. 93. Answered 20th Octr.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

NIAGARA, July 16th, 1794.

Sir:

I am to acknowledge the receipt of two dispatches, the one a duplicate by the Ottawa on the 14th at night, and the original by a French Man, on the 15th in the morning.

Your letter of the 9th July seems to include all the particulars on which it is necessary for me to observe.

It is to be regretted that Captain Elliott and the Traders were obliged by the Indians to take the field.

I do not understand from any accounts in this quarter that the Militia of Kentucky are intended to exceed eleven hundred men.

I wish some means could be devised that the Vessels which sail from the Miamis

might not be delayed to call at the Mouth of the River for letters when it is intended that they should immediately proceed to Fort Erie.

I am sorry to learn that the Miamis Fort is not yet in a situation to make a defence but I hope that the Artificers who accompany Lieutenant Adye will speedily accomplish the necessary purpose.

I hope among the Indian stores a sufficient quantity of Vermilion has been sent to answer Col. McKee's demands, but should that not be the case I shall most readily agree with you as far as I have authority to relax a rigid adherence to general custom in this hour of necessity, and beg that you will only restrict yourself by the good of the Service and furnish all such supplies as in your judgment Colonel McKee properly requires. There is neither Vermilion, Tobacco, or any goods in the Stores of Niagara.

In respect to Captain Steele desiring you to give him orders as you are furnished with a copy of the Instructions under which I occupied the Post at the Miamis, and my opinions founded upon those Instructions relative to the best means of rendering the position effectual for the purposes of self-defence therein contained, I can give no further directions but must naturally confide in your discretion and local knowledge for doing that which shall to your judgment appear the best for the public Service. I duly transmit all your letters to the Commander in Chief.

I have but little doubt but that Wayne will attack the Post should he arrive there in force. I should presume he would not effect this purpose suddenly nor before the works will be provided with Artillery as directed. This force I understand does not at present consist of more than sixteen hundred Continental Troops. Colonel McKee's information to me is merely a transcript of his communication to you. He by no means intimates any apprehensions of the Chickasaws or Light Troops moving on so rapidly. Indeed I should hope that such an event would be too hazardous in fact and to venture a judgment at this distance, it appears too premature in theory.

I cannot sufficiently commend your prudence in respect to the Indians. There is no reason that in compliance with any arrogant pretensions of the United States we should withdraw from them our customary protection, nor should we in our transactions with them be ostentatious in displaying an enmity to the States.

Mr. Jay, I have good reason to believe, delayed his departure for some time in order to collect information at New York of the hostile interference of this Government with the Indians in respect to the United States, and it is said he has been furnished with ample proofs.

I cannot but hope with you that circumstances may bear a brighter aspect and that the prospects of an honorable peace may encrease between the Indian Nations and their encroaching Neighbours.

(Draft.)

Lt. Col. England.

FROM LORD GRENVILLE TO GEORGE HAMMOND.

DOWNING STREET, July 17th, 1794.

Sir:

Your several dispatches to me inclusive have been duly received and laid before the King—The shortness of the time which I understand to be allotted for the sailing of the American ship which carries this dispatch and the uncertainty of the consequences do not allow me to enter into the particulars of what has passed since

the arrival of Mr. Jay on the Subject of the important Commission with which he is charged. I shall therefore confine myself to the informing you that the general Language and Conduct of that Gentleman has hitherto been satisfactory to this Government, and that in consequence of a conversation which we have had relative to the supposed intention of His Majesty's Officers in Canada to establish a Fort on the Little Miamis River, the motions and apprehensions in which that measure may probably have originated and the consequences to which it may have led, He gave the most explicit assurance that Genl. Wayne had no orders that could authorize his attacking any of the Posts held by His Majesty since the Peace, and it was agreed between us, that during the present negotiation, and until the conclusion of it, all things ought to remain and be preserved in *Statu quo*; that, therefore, both parties should continue to hold their possessions, and that all encroachments on either side should be done away; that all hostile measures, (if any such should have taken place), shall cease, and that in case it should have unfortunately happened that Prisoners or property should have been taken, the prisoners shall be released and property be restored, and that both Governments should immediately give orders and instructions accordingly.

Orders to this effect will accordingly be sent by the first direct conveyance to Quebec and I enclose you a duplicate in order that you may forward it to Upper Canada.

I am, Sir, &c.

GRENVILLE.

G. Hammond, Esq., &c., &c., &c.

FROM THE DUKE OF PORTLAND TO LORD DORCHESTER.

WHITEHALL, 15th July, 1794.

My Lord:

In addition to the letter from Mr. Secretary Dundas to Your Lordship by which Your Lordship is apprised of the arrival of Mr. Jay, Envoy Extraordinary from the American States to this Court, I seize the earliest opportunity of enclosing a copy of a letter from Lord Grenville to Mr. Hammond.

Mr. Jay has given the most explicit assurances that General Wayne had no orders which could authorize his attacking any of Posts held by his "Majesty since the peace, and it has been agreed with between His Lordship and Mr. Jay, that during the present negotiation, and until the conclusion of it, all things ought to remain in *Statu quo*; that therefore both parties should continue to hold their possessions, and that all encroachments on either side should be done away; that all hostile measures, (if any such should have taken place), shall cease, and that in case it should unfortunately have happened that prisoners or property should have been taken, the prisoners shall be released and property restored, and that both Governments should immediately give orders and instructions accordingly."

In consequence therefore of the above agreement between Lord Grenville and Mr. Jay, I am to signify to Your Lordship, His Majesty's pleasure that you should take the most immediate and effectual measures for fulfilling the same in every particular on your part, and Your Lordship will not fail to notify to Genl. Wayne without delay, or to whomsoever else it may be necessary, the Object of your instructions on this head with such other particulars as you shall judge requisite for the more speedily carrying the above Agreement into execution.

Your Lordship will observe that the enclosed letter from Lord Grenville to Mr. Hammond will contain a duplicate of this, my letter to Your Lordship, and I shall by the same conveyance transmit a copy of it to Lieut. Governor Simcoe for his guidance and direction, in case he should not previously have received the necessary orders grounded thereon from Your Lordship, which you will however not delay to send to him as soon after the receipt of this letter as possible.

I am, My Lord, &c.

PORTLAND.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE.

Notice is hereby given to all persons who have obtained Assignments of Land on Dundas Street, leading from the Head of Burlington Bay to the Upper Forks of the Thames River: and on Yonge Street, leading from York to Lake Simcoe, that unless a Dwelling House shall be Built on every Lot under certificate of location and the same occupied within one year from the date of their respective assignments such lots will be forfeited on the said Roads.

D. W. SMITH,
Acting Surveyor General.

Upper Canada, July 15th, 1794.

(Printed in the Upper Canada Gazette, 1794.)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO JOHN SMITH.

July 17th.

Sir:

It appearing necessary for the King's Garrison at Niagara, that the buildings which have from time to time been erected on the Beach should in the greater part be removed, I am to direct that you give intimation to the Inhabitants that without loss of time they remove themselves and families, and you will be pleased to take such measures as you shall deem requisite for the accomodation of Officers and persons on the Staff who have hitherto been permitted to reside upon the Beach.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. S.

Major Smith, Commanding at Niagara.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO GEORGE HAMMOND.

NAVY HALL, 18th July, 1794.

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the reasons which directed my official letter to Your Excellency of the 24th of August last, I enclose for your perusal a copy of a despatch I have just received and transmitted to Mr. Dundas, and the duplicate of which I beg to commit to Your Excellency to be forwarded to Great Britain.

I have received no communications from you whatsoever since the Major of Brigade left this place, excepting your request that I would send a confidential

person to you, which in his mission I had anticipated. It is reported that he is on his return by Lower Canada.

I am just now in possession of letters which passed between yourself and Mr. Secretary Randolph of the 20th & 22nd of May relative to the Post at the Miamis, together with the President's message on that Subject of the 21st of May.

It may be proper for me to communicate my Ideas upon the Subject which appears to have been regarded as of peculiar importance by the Government of the United States.

The universal aggressions of the United States in my apprehension is summarily comprised in the despatch I have alluded to in the former part of my letter. The particular instances as far as they respect this Government in respect to Oswego, and lately to the language and threats of General Wayne and his Officers that they would approach to the Lakes or within nine miles of Detroit, have been fully explained in the several communications that I have done myself the honor of sending to you from time to time, for the express purpose of your using your endeavours by the means which you possessed of constant access to the Government of the United States to prevent those aggressions which neither the King's honor, nor the public safety would permit those entrusted with this Government to submit to without opposition.

I am sure that Your Excellency will do me the Justice of saying that such have been my Communications to you, that they have been made with a providence which has foreseen the extremities, which must result from such aggression, and in the very spirit of securing the Public Peace by representation and not hostility.

Upon a general view of the State of Canada, it appears to have been the duty of the Governor General as Commander in Chief, to direct such Posts to be re-occupied for the public Security, as might best provide for it upon principles not of Hostility but of self Defence.

The Fort at the Miamis was evacuated in some respect at the Peace of 1783, as occasioning an useless and unnecessary expence. It was occupied afterwards as circumstances directed, at one time, I think in 1789, by a Sergeant's party to prevent flour being smuggled from the Settlement, and in consequence of a general regulation. Colonel McKee has given out the King's presents there, resides there occasionally, and during his residence has had the British Flag displayed, and it has been considered by the respective Officers in Command at Detroit as within their jurisdiction.

I observe with some degree of surprise, that Secretary Randolph in his letter to you, remarks "that the Army of the United States in their march against the Enemy will not be able to distinguish between them and any other People associated in the War." It should appear, Sir, that Mr. Randolph supposes that the British Troops are associated in arms with the American Indians, and not confined to the defence of a Post sufficiently conspicuous to all those who do not affect to misunderstand the difference between hostility and self-defence, or do not wish to confound the means of just protection against an Indian invasion with an invasion which must be repelled. I cannot but regret, Sir, that during the pending of these various points the Establishment of a Settlement at the Sodus in the vicinity of Oswego should have taken place.

The principles upon which the British Government defer the evacuation of the Posts to the common observation of mankind can possibly have no effect, should the value of those Posts depending upon the restraint which they place upon the commerce of the United States, or upon the extension of their Settlements, be

evaded by the recent occupation of such positions in their very neighbourhood as may effectually counteract the intention for which the Posts were so withheld.

I cannot but therefore consider, Sir, the present occupation of the Sodus as calculated to throw obstacles in the way of negotiation; but when I add to it the circumstances of the late plunders which have been committed on the properties, and the confinement of the persons of His Majesty's Subjects at the Three River Point, which have been made known to Your Excellency and that some of them have actually happened under the eyes of the Magistrates of the Province of New York, as proved by them not only having been plundered, but having been regularly collected under the pretext of a species of Embargo and that the robbers have been armed with the arms of Mr. Williamson, now a Magistrate, and when I compare these transactions with the Speech of the Governor of New York at the opening of the late Session, evidently aiming to inspire a spirit of hostility into the people, I cannot but think this Government was meant to be betrayed and provoked by such atrocious Offences and insults into reprisals, and that it is amply justified and laid under the necessity of preventive measures as apparently the result of system from receiving countenance by the approaches of a formidable Army to its very Settlements. Nor, Sir, are these encroachments, nor the language of General Wayne to the Indians, nor the language of the unprincipled men at the Genesees, nor of Williamson at the Sodus, the only reasons which fortify and confirm the necessity of the Commander in Chief having directed me to establish a Post at the Miamis. At this moment, I have certain Information that persons at Presqu' Isle have told the Indians that they mean to build ships there, and then to drive the British Troops and Inhabitants out of the Country.

It is true, Sir, such language may be denied, and it may be said to be unauthorized, but it has sufficient weight and authority with the Indians to give a just cause of uneasiness to this Government, to direct its view to self-defence and proper precaution; is a further illustration of the manner in which the Subjects of the United States "push on, act, and talk"—and is sufficiently evident to give a reasonable ground of apprehension that their future intentions are systematically of an hostile nature.

I have just now been furnished with Mr. Randolph's Answer on the 2nd of June.

I think the dispatch which this endorses upon solid grounds, controverts the assumption of the Territorial Line being the line of Jurisdiction till the Territory is ceded by the Indian Nations, the true Proprietors, and I have already sufficiently explained that the Fort now erecting is within the District possessed by the Military Establishment of Detroit at the time of the Peace, and subsequently to that event.

I have been informed that Mr. Ellicott¹ at Presqu' Isle or Le Boeuf, had held the unjustifiable, and I had presumed, obsolete language "that the King had ceded the lands of the Indians to the United States."

Mr. Johnson², the King's Interpreter, who was present at the request of the Indians, heard the assertion. Mr. Ellicott also attempted to insinuate to the Indians that the permission which Lord Dorchester had given him to pass these Posts, in order to draw a line of demarkation between the Provinces of Pennsylvania and New York, was a proof that the lands were ceded to the United States.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

His Excy. George Hammond, Philadelphia.

¹ Andrew Ellicott.

² William Johnston.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM G. LA MOTHE TO JOSEPH CHEW, S.I.A.
DATED AT MICHILIMACKINAC 19TH JULY 1794.

"All our warriors arrived yesterday with very little success, they have lost Twenty five people amongst different Nations, the Americans on their side have lost thirty, and amongst them there were two prisoners which we received yesterday. The action was near Fort Recovery from which the Cannon & Shells were very much against the Indians.

Captain Doyle desires his compliments to you and requests of you to send twelve Medals & twelve Flags to this place, the small medals you sent before the Indians will not accept of him.

There is likewise at Chikagoe Fifty Indians died of the Small Pox which alarms the Indians much in this Post."

MONTREAL 18th August 1794 *a true Extract*

JOSEPH CHEW, S.I.A.

FROM THE MARQUIS OF BUCKINGHAM TO LORD GRENVILLE.

WEYMOUTH, July 19, 1794.

"If the enclosed letter only concerned me, I should not on this account regret the difficulty which cut me off from any communication with the Office which Mr. Dundas has quitted; but, after considering the subject, I thought myself bound in honour to Colonel Simcoe (as a consequence of the confidence which he reposed in me) to communicate this very short and interesting note to Mr. Pitt and you, who first employed him. I will thank you to return it to me, as I wish to answer it immediately, and to state to him how entirely this change in the Cabinet, and particularly in the Home Department, has altered my situation, and by means of assisting him in his correspondence. Upon a subject from which I apprehend so much, I must form my opinion from the few lights which are in your letter, which notified it to me, and they are certainly not sufficient to alter the opinion which I should have given (had it been asked) upon this coalition, so entirely new to me . . ."

(Historical Manuscripts Commission, Dropmore Papers, Vol. II, p. 602.)

FROM JOSEPH BRANT TO JOHN SMITH.

(Extract)

July 19th, 1794.

"It is our business to push those fellows hard, and, therefore, it is my intention to form my camp at Point Appineau,¹ and I would esteem it a favour if His Excellency, the Lieut.-Governor, would lend me four or five batteaux. Should it so turn out, and should those fellows not go off, an expedition against those Yankees must of consequence take place. . . . His Excellency has been so good as

¹ Now written "Point Abino," the first conspicuous point of land on the shore of Lake Erie, west of Fort Erie. Indian relics in abundance have been found in its neighbourhood, showing that it was a place of frequent resort of aborigines.

to furnish us with a hundred-weight of powder and ball in proportion, which is now at Fort Erie; but in the event of an attack upon the Le Boeuf people, I would wish, if consistent, that His Excellency would order a like quantity to be at Fort Erie, in order to be in readiness; likewise I would hope for a little assistance in provisions."

(Quoted by Mr. D. B. Read in "The Life and Times of Gen. John Graves Simcoe," pp. 216-7.)

FROM D. W. SMITH TO J. G. SIMCOE.

His Excellency, John Graves Simcoe, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Upper Canada, &c., &c., &c., In Council:

May it please your Excellency,

Having reference to the order which your Excellency was formerly pleased to make of a reserve on Burlington Bay, for certain French Emigrants; as well as to a subsequent order of Council, no longer to reserve those lands, but to assign the same to Messieurs McDonnells;—and understanding that this last order has been in consequence of a surmise that the french agent, the Abbe des Jardins, did not intend to come into this Province; but which I have since learnt cannot altogether be depended on.

I beg to know your Excellency's pleasure, whether the said lands are to be yet reserved for the true Abbe, & the French Emigrants, or whether the assignments made to the Messrs. McDonnells, in conformity to the late order of Council, are to be considered binding—

All which is nevertheless submitted
to your Excellency's Wisdom—

D. W. SMITH,
Act'g Sur. Gen'l in Upper Canada

Surveyor General's Office
20th July, 1794.

(*Endorsement by J. G. Simcoe*)

You will be so good as to inform the Messrs. McDonnells that I consider all the Promises made to them in respect to the lands as void—& as such, shall order It to be laid before the Council. I by no means to assign the grants exclusively to any one family.

J.G.S.

(MSS. of D. W. Smith, Toronto Public Library, Series B, Vol. 9, p. 9.)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO GEORGE HAMMOND.

NIAGARA, July 20th, 1794.

Sir:

I enclose to Your Excellency a letter just received by Doctor Kerr¹ of this place, by which it would appear that the persons of whom I gave you information by Mr. Peters have committed other robberies at the Three River Point, are attempted to be sheltered in their villainy by the Magistrates of Onondago, the well known friends of Governor Clinton, shamefully applying to their forcible and unauthorized piracy the legitimate Powers of the Federal Authority, and intimating a tumultuous Assembly of the People, who had themselves declared that they took upon them the commission of reprisals, to be legally invested with the due authority of the Laws.

The taunts and improper language is a suitable conveyance of such contemptible and ruffian-like conduct.

The box of goods alluded to was opened and in a great measure plundered.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

His Excy. George Hammond. Philadelphia.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO GEORGE HAMMOND.

July 20th, 1794.

Dear Sir:

Since my last communication with Your Excellency, I have seen a letter of yours in the Albany paper to Mr. Randolph &c., &c., bearing date of 17th July tho' from the contents, I gather it is misprinted, and should be the 7th of that month. My letter seems to have anticipated some of the topics of Your Excellency's animadversions and in such a manner, that did I not assure you to the contrary, it might induce a belief that I had some intimation of your Answer to Mr. Randolph previously to the despatch which I transmitted to you.

I enclose for your perusal, the copy of a letter which was written by General Sinclair in 1790, previously to the advance of the Army which he led into the Indian Country, to the King's Officer in command at Detroit.

That Genl. Sinclair was directed and required to establish a Post at the Miamis Village in 1791: after its Establishment he was instructed, rather than before it, to give assurances to the British Commandant at Detroit that the Armament was not intended at different periods, but to have originated on the natural principle, that a large force collected upon the Frontier of a neutral state, is a just cause of jealousy to such a state, and that it is the duty of the Power who collects such a force to remove any umbrage that may arise by the most explicit assurances that no hostile intentions are meditated against the possessions of the neighbouring Power; to what extent such a Power shall believe or admit these assurances, can only be determined by itself, upon a review of every immediate or collateral circumstance, which may illustrate such assurances, and discriminate them from apparent or probable intentions which may not be avowed. A remarkable change has since these periods taken place in the intentions of the American Government—The Establishment of a Post at the Miamis Villages seems no longer to be a primary

¹ Robert Kerr.

Object of Wayne's expedition as it was that of Sinclair's, and this conclusion is naturally drawn from the road he is now cutting, pointing to the Glaize, a navigable branch of the Miamis River of Lake Erie.

It is illustrated by the language of this General and his Official to the Indians that he hopes to drink of the waters of Lake Erie; By the universal rumor of the Army that Detroit is the ultimate end of their expedition and amidst the invectives and assertions of their newspapers which those Foreigners who are acquainted with the people of the United States must know are the great means by which they are led, and I had almost said their very Laws are controlled and interpreted.

No intimation whatever is given in contradiction of these intentions, either by the General of the United States or by its Government until upon the fairest principle of self-defence against this new line of March, this novel menace of aggression, such a position is taken as might protect the British Settlements.

They already suffer in the extreme from the precariousness of War in their traffic with the Indian Nations; and are now threatened from the string of Posts by which Mr. Wayne is securing possession of the Indian Territory, with the total loss of that commerce, which I shall ever contend The United States by no Treaty is empowered to wrest in Indian Territory from the Subjects of Great Britain and the independent Indians.

I think these remarks may elucidate some of the Subjects under discussion; at any rate they speak my sentiments on the propriety and justice to the King's Possessions, with which the Commander in Chief has directed a Post to be established on the Miamis.

I have understood that the bearer of this letter will give you information from what quarter it is to be alleged that this Government have encouraged the Indians in an improper manner in their resistance against the United States. Perhaps the part which this Government has to act in supporting its own natural interests in the affections of the Indians against the Government of the United States, who certainly have done much to lessen it, is difficult indeed, but it must be obvious that neither the Federal Government of the United States, that of the separate Provinces, nor its individuals are fair Judges of what may or may not be necessary on the principles of self-defence, for the Executive Power in this Country to intimate to the Indian Nations. Suffice it, that in my written Speeches I certainly avow that: generally, I disavow any language or action inconsistent with them, but that it is impossible for me to answer for the guidance of the Indian Department, of necessity, under present circumstances an "*Imperium in Imperio*," and particularly as all transactions must be managed by Interpreters and Agents, who solely are acquainted with the customs and manners of these people, and with their language; a circumstance, which, altho' I have no reason to doubt the fidelity of these persons, must undoubtedly limit any possibility of my being responsible in a strict and more accurate sense for their transactions.

Your Excellency must have seen, from time to time, the great principle that I have adopted, or established in respect to the Indian Nations, namely, to make their Union as extensive as possible, to insure from it the general sense of what are their real requisitions and determinations, as the best means of laying the solid foundations of permanent Justice and permanent Tranquility. Your Excellency need not be informed that other Opinions have been held by the Government of the United States; and that a different System was pursued, I personally observed in a Memorandum to the Commissioners, which I transmitted to you.

These Gentlemen, also, in their letter to General Wayne, (thanking him for his not advancing in respect to their personal safety), seem to intimate that some

Advantages may be expected from the result of their negotiations, tho' it, generally speaking, had failed. These Advantages, I presume, they mean to deduce from the disunion of the Indians, which it was evidently their aim to effect—but this very disunion, being only on the specific claims of the Ohio or Muskingum Boundary, and both being declined or refused by the United States, it is not likely that any pacification can ensue but from the result of arms.

It is generally understood here that the attempts which are now making to advance the settlements of Pennsylvania to Presqu' Isle, and which are certainly impolitic, as their tendency must naturally give such umbrage to the Six Nations, as to engage them in the War, has originated from the desire of Mr. Morris and other speculators so to confine the Six Nations as to force those People to quit that Country, and by that means to facilitate the purchase of the lands to the northwards of Presqu' Isle to the Genesee River, of which Mr. Morris has the pre-emption right.

However just or unjust this Suspicion may be, I beg to enclose to you a copy of a promissory note of Mr. Morris to a Mr. Allen, commonly called the Genesee Allen, in which that Gentleman promises to secure to Mr. Allen a third of a hundred thousand acres of land, to which he shall obtain a title from the Indian owners.

This paper, Sir, strongly elucidates the necessity of the principle I have supported as the rule of conduct proper to be observed to the Indians, as nothing can more evidently tend to involve these Nations in hostility than entrusting to any individual such a power as Mr. Morris guarantees to Mr. Allen, and that Mr. Morris, a Senator of the United States, should recommend such a transaction or should possess such commanding influence as to be able to promise its ratification, is a better reason for the opposition of the Indians to the proceedings of the United States than any surmises of British interference.

The Western Indians lately forced all the Traders on Miamis River, together with Captain Elliot, to go to their Camp of Assembly. It is to be presumed that this measure will be dilated upon in the United States and adduced as a proof of the open assistance given by the King's Servants to the Indians.

The fact has been represented to me, as I have stated it, a matter of compulsion and not choice, and so much so, that many of our Traders have been stopped from venturing up the Miamis River, lest they should be placed in a similar predicament.

It may not be improper here, Sir, to observe that there now exist among the Indians, belts which were transmitted two or three years ago by the late General Butler, requesting them to bring in the scalps of Colonel McKee and Captain Elliot.

You may depend upon the truth of this information, as I had it from Col. McKee, when I was at the Miamis, and there were circumstances that corroborated his statement.

Upon the whole, it is evident to me that the United States, not only in the particular instance of the Speech to which you alluded as made by Sinclair, have told the Indians "that the King had ceded their lands as the price of peace," but they have in all respects acted as if such a cession had really been made, and have most arrogantly from this affirmation, their own wilful misconstruction, established as a Datum, every benefit that the British Nation has been accustomed to bestow on the Indians.

Every advice which those Nations have always sought for, and received from the King's Agents, and every manifestation of good will exhibited by the King's Officers or his Subjects, are so many Acts of Aggression against their Sovereignty, as indubitable proofs of hostility.

In short they arrogate to themselves, the right of acting in any manner that they shall think expedient in the combination of a greater mixture of avarice and ambition than has hitherto been exemplified by any people at any period of the history of mankind.

Their transactions with the Indian Nations, and in some respect with Great Britain, are marked with fraud and violence, which it is indispensibly necessary should meet with the most determined opposition.

Some French Settlers on the Black River and Hungry Bay have applied to me to permit flour to be sent to them from Kingston. I deferred it, among other reasons, stating that the Six Nations claimed those lands, and that they must have known at Albany, from whence the letter was dated, of Lord Dorchester's Speech, declining to admit the pre-emption right of the States.

I enclose to Your Excellency, information of the Indian claims, elucidatory of my Opinion in that respect.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

His Excy. George Hammond, Philadelphia.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO GEORGE HAMMOND.

NAVY HALL, July 20th, 1794.

Sir:

I take the earliest opportunity of communicating to Your Excellency the enclosed affidavits of the capture and ill treatment of a Subject of His Majesty in his passage from Oneida Lake to the British Post at Oswego.

The circumstances of this case are of such a nature, that although in other respects they bear the appearance of a common robbery, yet in other points they rather lead to the supposition of the infringement of a right which the British Subjects have hitherto enjoyed, of passing by Oswego and the Oneida Lake to and from Albany and the other Settlements of the United States, to have arisen under some legal pretext, applicable to the present moment, and intended to irritate and provoke the intemperate discussion of questions of the most serious tendency and universal magnitude.

The points to which I particularly allude will in some measure strike Your Excellency from the language of the persons as stated in the affidavit, that it was done in the name of the good people of the States, and was a measure of retaliation. But it is necessary that I should inform you, that Mr. Danforth, to whose house the goods have been conveyed, is a Magistrate, and a Major of Militia, who I am sorry to believe, has openly been canvassing for people to attack the King's Post at Oswego, in defiance of the existing authority of the Government of the United States.

I have to state to Your Excellency, what I am sure you will acquiesce in the support of, that no circumstances can justify the retaliation on Mr. Ramsay¹ for any injury which might be alleged or proved to have arisen from the seizure of the boats or goods of Mr. Church at Oswego.

The fact is, that Church's goods were contraband, and as such forfeited by the Laws, of which Mr. Church, as his endeavour to escape demonstrated, was most fully apprised. Any injustice in the condemnation would have been remedied

¹ David Ramsay, a noted trader among the Indians, of a somewhat doubtful character.

upon proper application to the existing authority in this Country, which has always been most favorably disposed towards a friendly intercourse with the Subjects of the United States, &c., to the natural benefit of both peoples.

I cannot but observe on the keeping a Post at Oswego, that although by the Treaty of Peace, the King stipulated to withdraw his Garrisons, most unquestionably considering the Indian Nations as they were at that period, free and independent, possessing the full power of admitting the Subjects of both Great Britain and the United States into their Territory for the purposes of traffic, yet most assuredly, it never could have been intended that contraband goods should be permitted to pass from the Indian Lands into the Dominion of the respective Powers without being subject to the forfeiture or penalties which each Government might think proper to ordain for the regulation of its Commerce.

And tho' Sir, at the moment in which the Peace was concluded, among other most flagrant infractions of the Treaty, the United States immediately began to change the relative Situation, under which their independency had been admitted, by practicing upon the fears or the credulity of the Indians, as the Corn Planter's complaint exemplifies, by falsehood in General Sinclair's and other Speeches, and by universally holding out the unjust and unfriendly language to the Savages, to the manifest danger of involving His Majesty's Dominions in an open state of Warfare, and in consequence they actually gave birth to that formidable Alliance of the Indian Nations, which was equally intended against the British Nation as that of the United States, to which may be added, their immediate division of the Indian Country into separate States, giving them names, and demanding from Great Britain possession of those Posts from which only she had stipulated to withdraw her forces. Yet, Sir, during the season in which these circumstances are under discussion, it appears to me of the utmost consequence that no irritation should arise between the Subjects of either Country that may alienate the good understanding which it is my most sincere prayer may ever continue for their mutual interest, under the impression of these Ideas, as I have prevented Mr. Ramsay from personal reprisals, which being an adopted Indian, he is fully capable of executing, It appears more advisable to transmit to you the papers on this subject, as I think it for the Public Interest that this transaction should be made known to the Federal Government, and redressed by it, rather than submitted by me immediately to Governor Clinton, who is the friend, and it is said, in many instances the supporter of Danforth.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

His Excy. George Hammond, Philadelphia.

FROM JOHN JAY TO GEORGE WASHINGTON.

LONDON, 21st July, 1794.

Dear Sir:

Among my letters to Mr. Randolph is one stating an agreement between Lord Grenville and myself for preserving things in a pacific and unaltered state between us and the British on the side of Canada and the frontiers; and Mr. Simcoe will soon receive orders to retire from Miami to his former positions. Some cabinet councils have lately been held, and it is probable that the manner of settling their differences with us have been among the subjects of their deliberations. From the silence and circumspection of Lord Grenville I apprehend that the cabinet has not

ultimately concluded on their plan. This delay is unpleasant, but I do not think it unnatural. The opposition members lately come in have so often held a language friendly to America, that it is probable they will find it necessary, in order to be consistent, to adhere to sentiments not agreeable to some of the others. I am led by several little circumstances, not easily detailed or explained, to believe that the late administration looked upon a war with us as inevitable, and I am of opinion that the instructions of the 6th of November were influenced by that idea. I do also believe that Lord Dorchester was instructed to act conformably to that idea, and that Simcoe was governed by it.

I am *certain* that intelligence (which made some impression) was conveyed to the ministry, that our army, if successful against the Indians, had orders to attack and take the posts. There is also room to believe, that the indiscreet reception given to the late French Minister ¹—the unnecessary rejoicings about French successes, and a variety of similar circumstances, did impress the government with strong apprehensions of an unavoidable war with us, and did induce them to entertain a disposition hostile to us.

I have given Lord Grenville positive assurances, that no attack pending the negotiations will be made on the posts held by them at the conclusion of the war; but I also told him that I thought it highly probable that every new advanced post, and particularly the one said to be taken by Mr. Simcoe on the Miami, would be attacked. I must do him the justice to say that hitherto I have found him fair and candid, and apparently free from asperity or irritation.

So far as personal attentions to the envoy may be regarded as symptoms of good-will to his country, my prospect is favourable. These symptoms, however, are never decisive; they justify expectation, but not reliance. I most heartily wish the business over, and myself at home again. But it would not be prudent to urge and press unceasingly, lest ill-humour should result, and ill-humour will mar any negotiation; on the other hand, much forbearance and seeming inactivity invite procrastination and neglect. The line between these extremes is delicate; I will endeavour to find and observe it.

I am, &c

JOHN JAY.

(Correspondence and Public Papers of John Jay, Vol. IV, pp. 33-4.)

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, July 22nd, 2 o'clock P.M.

My Dear Sir:

The Chippawa arrived in this river late last night, and my letters by her have only this moment reached me. Since my last by the Saguina of the 16th inst., I have not heard a word from the Miamis which induces me to imagine all is quiet there as both Captain Stiell and Colonel McKee are directed not to be sparing of expresses by land when requisite. Your orders relative to that Post have been implicitly attended to and all the Cannon and Stores directed by you are now in there or on Turtle Island, to be moved up the river as found expedient, and your wishes about the Gun Boats have been anticipated as they are both now there, to wait the orders of Captain Stiell. In my last letter I reported that the Fort was

¹ Genet.

closed in, and as that report was sent to me on the 10th inst., it is natural to suppose that by the exertions made there some considerable progress is made in these last twelve days.

The Little Turtle, a Miamis Chief, paid me a visit here. He seemed the most decent, modest, sensible Indian I ever conversed with, the object of his visit was clearly to discover what assistance he and the other Indians were to expect from us, he expressed fully their dislike to continue the War longer on the terms they had been lately engaged in, and said much on that subject, asked for twenty men and two pieces of Cannon to go to attack Fort Recovery, and declared if not assisted by the English they would be obliged to desist in their plan of attempting to stop the progress of the American Army. I of course talked him over for two or three days, and dismissed him seemingly contented.

Within these few days I received a letter from Captain Doyle, with another proposal, and now send you a copy of an extract of his letter. I propose to send the Felicity in a few days to him with provisions &c., &c., and the Dunmore will sail in two days for Fort Erie. I shall delay her a day extraordinary as this opportunity of communicating with you now offers, and in expectation to hear something from Fort Miamis before she sails.

I ever apprehended the Americans would be extremely jealous of our establishing a Post on the Miamis, and that it would expedite the rupture; I should not be surprised if the Ministry mentioned their disapprobation of it to Lord Dorchester, as I don't believe they wish to provoke a war with the United States, and God knows this Country is by no means in a situation to commence hostilities. We don't see anything from home that justifies His Excellency's Speech to the Indians, or taking the Post that seems to Court offence, this entre nous. My letters from Quebec and Montreal represent the miserable Canadians in a state little short of rebellion.

Though you have not mentioned what you did with Dr. Freeman yet I think it necessary to send you two affidavits I had sworn to here by Lieut. Fleming, commanding the Dunmore and a soldier of the 24th, who acted as a Marine on board her, the latter merits some reward for his discretion and conduct.

These affidavits were in consequence of his report to me, immediately on his landing here.

If the Doctor is still with you they will serve as some proof of his misconduct to justify if necessary, a rigid confinement or punishment.

I am, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

I now write by the Nancy, a private trader, you shall hear more fully from me by the Dunmore.

His Excellency, Lieut. Gov. Simcoe, &c., &c.

FROM THE BARON DE CARONDELET TO J. G. SIMCOE.

NOUVELLE ORLEANS ce 22 Juillet, 1794.

Monsieur:

J'ai reçu la lettre de votre Excellence datée des Rapides des Miamis du Lac Erie 11 Avril dernier au commencement de Juillet et J'ai lu avec la plus grande satisfaction les marques d'estime et d'attachement qu'elle renferme pour la Nation Espagnole: Nos coeurs sont tellement unies d'intérêts que je ne doute pas un

instant qu'elle ne prennent des engagements très étroits pour la defense reciproque de leurs vastes possessions dans ces contrées de l'Amerique. J'ai communiqué la response de V. E. à mon Souverain dans cette intention, et je recevrai avec plaisir le contenu de cette que vous aura fait le Lord Dorchester.

Je crois qu'en cas de rupture nous pourrons tirer un très grand parti de nos Sauvages les Creeks, Cherokees, Chicachas et Chactas sont à ma disposition et si nous pouvons combiner, et diriger leurs operations avec celles des Nations du Nord qui sont devouées à l'Angleterre nous harcelerons et devasterons les possessions des Etats Unis dans une etendue que leur rendra impossible le moiens de se mettre à couvert de leurs hostilités, des Couriers poster entre les Miamis et les Illinois entre-tendroient une correspondance facile et prompte entre vous et moi sur cet objet.

Ne doutez pas Monsieur que si les Etats Unis se mettent en devoir d'exécuter le plan de leur Republique au confluent des Rivières Mississipi et Misouri qui a appartenu de tout tems à l'Espagne et ou nous avons même actuellement la Peuplade de St. Charles, je ferai attaquer et traiterai en ennemis tout ceux qui s'y presenteront, après avoir envoie faire les protestations d'usage au chef de l'entreprise au nom du Roi, mon Maitre, sur la Rive Americaine du Mississipi.

Il est sans doute a desirer que le feu de la guerre qui embrage l'Europe puisse s'éteindre au lieu de prendre des nouveaux accroissemens, mais s'il s'étend jusqu'à ces contrées, j'espere qui nous en ferons repentir cruellement ceux qui l'auront attise.

Je vous souhaite Monsieur toutes les prosperités dont vous vous êtes rendu digne par les grandes qualités morales, politiques, et militaires dont la renommée s'est etendu jusqu'à nous et desirant avec empressement les occasions de meriter votre confidence

J'ai l'honneur d'être avec la plus parfaite consideration, Monsieur
Votre très humble & très obeissant Serviteur

LE BARON DE CARONDELET,
Brigadier des Armées et Gouverneur General de la Louisiane et
Florida occidental.

a Son Excellence J. G. Simcoe, Lieutenant Gouverneur et Commandant de la Province du Haut Canada.

Endorsed:—C. In Lieutenant Governor Simcoe's No 21 to the Duke of Portland.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, 23rd July, 1794.

My Lord:

In adverting to a paragraph in Your Lordship's letter of the 9th of June, in respect to entrenching tools, &c. &c., I beg to observe that the Engineer, Lt. Pilkington, thought those which were in the Storekeeper's possession, and those which he could procure from the Merchants, so very insufficient for the purpose of his duty, that upon his requisition, I directed Commissary McGill to issue such tools as he might require and the Provincial stores could afford, the Engineer being answerable that they should be replaced.

I enclose the issue that was made in compliance with these circumstances, and I am to desire that if the Engineer has neglected to make the proper communication that they may be replaced in such a manner as Your Lordship shall deem proper. The iron eighteen pounders at Detroit, in case of Wayne's advance, may be of essential service to Turtle Island. It appears to me to be absolutely necessary

that cannon of a larger calibre than field pieces (six pounders) should be employed in particular stations in Gun Boats, as I have no doubt but our opponents will place heavy Artillery in all their Fortresses, and make use of the same in such craft as they shall establish on the Lakes.

There is every appearance of Loyalty in the Lower Parts of the Province, and I dare say the Inhabitants will do their utmost for its protection in conjunction with His Majesty's Forces. The Troops at this place have worked upon the fortifications with great spirit and alacrity; every alteration and improvement by bringing into discussion its general and particular merits as a fortress, more strongly impresses me with the Ideas which I had entertained of it at the first glance. It can merely be considered as a badly constructed field work, and would at least require all the Forces in this Country to garrison it in case of a siege.

By the enclosed letters from Col. England, Your Lordship will see that the fort at the Miamis will probably be in as complete a state of defence as its nature will admit, previously to the advance of General Wayne; if circumstances shall enable him to move forward.

The correspondence of Lt. Col. England and Col. McKee, which I enclose for Your Lordship's perusal, will best exhibit that fluctuation of hopes and fears naturally incident to the Situation of those who are obliged to build their safety on so precarious a foundation as a defensive Indian protection. I think it prudent to remain here at present, until something of certainty may take place between the Six Nations and the States, relative to Presqu' Isle—I enclose for Your Lordship's information, the account which some of the Principal Chiefs of the Onondaga Nation give of those lands which are now selling by the State of New York.

I am anxious to receive Lt. Bryce's report on the environs of Kingston, and the Upper St. Lawrence, that in obedience to Your Lordship's commands I may offer my observations thereon. As soon as I can be absent, I mean to visit those parts of the Province and the Bay of Quinte, that I may personally inform myself of the best mode of its defence.

I understand that the Commissioners of the State of New York have directed fortifications to be erected at Fort Stanwix, Fort Brewerton, also Three River Point, the Onondago Salt Spring, and the Falls of Oswego—the latter place, I understand from the Onondagoes, is begun in a solid manner.

I have always thought, and as such I stated it to the King's Ministers before I left Great Britain that Upper Canada is not to be defended by remaining within the Boundary Line.

Every Circumstance more strongly impresses this Opinion upon my mind, and I cannot but consider that it would be very practicable to ruin the Genesee Settlement and to establish a line by occupying the Three River Point in force from thence to Oswego, or to the little Sodus, which might afford a better Security to the Frontier, than any possible Posts within our Boundary.

I am to acknowledge Your Lordship's letter of the 23rd of June. I shall immediately by Your Lordship's intimation direct the Gun Boats to be built at Kingston. I shall also transmit a copy of the plan to Lt. Col. England, and desire him to build similar ones at Detroit.

I have given directions to a confidential person to procure six or eight boat builders from New York, for some time past I have been purchasing the largest Schenectady Boats I could meet with; they are much better for the Lakes than Batteaux, which I have from some experiments reason to believe may become of great use as Gun Boats, by erecting a stage of sand bags; they seem to be able to bear the shock of the gun(?) without any injury, and we are in hopes by a similar method, they will stand the shock of the carronade.

I shall immediately, My Lord, take measures for a distribution of the arms (which Your Lordship has thought proper to send to Kingston) amongst the Militia. I am in hopes to get together a very respectable Battalion of mounted Militia Artillery, for the Service of this and other Communications, and who as circumstances /admit/ may be established.

I enclose for Your Lordship's perusal, the copy of a letter which I lately received from Colonel McKee, relative to the murder and robbery of some Indians. I am totally at a loss how to act in this affair. Chief Justice Osgoode, and I believe all the gentlemen of the Law, do not think the sentence on such a murderer, if it should be death, could be legally executed upon any conviction that might take place under a Civil Court of Judicature. Should Your Lordship be of opinion that the offender is subject to be tried by a General Court Martial, (under the 4th Article of the 23rd Section, made expressly for the punishment of offenders where there is no Civil Judicature in force), it might be advisable to have the criminal apprehended, tho' the distance of time that must necessarily intervene between Your Lordship's approval of the sentence and its execution, would be much to be regretted.

Having been informed of some former difficulties on this very Subject, I stated it to Mr. Pitt, cursorily, before I left Great Britain, if they still subsist in Your Lordship's opinion, I hope you will have the goodness to intimate to the King's Ministers, the necessity of their being obviated, of which the papers I transmit are most assuredly a striking example.

In respect of rum being carried up the Miamis River, I have given positive orders to that effect to Colonel England.

In these orders, I understand I have exceeded my legal authority, and am liable to a Civil prosecution, thro' the medium of those who shall execute my orders on that account.

In this respect, the Inland Navigation Act is certainly injurious to the public interests—I have had much consultation on the Subject, and hope at the next meeting of the Legislature to be able to apply a remedy to the Evil so justly complained of.

Your Lordship's intention in regard to preventing of any French Emissaries from entering this Province, shall as far as possible, be carried into Execution.

I enclose for Your Lordship's information my Answer to several points which have been communicated to me by Lt. Col. England.

I also enclose information, which appears to me to be accurate of the Inhabitants of the Genessee, who are actually capable of bearing arms.

By a Gentleman in whom I have confidence lately from Oswego, I have reason to believe that I was misinformed in respect to works having actually been begun above the Falls of that place, as reported by the Onondagoes. I have reason to believe that I was misinformed in respect to works having actually been begun above, as above stated.

It was understood that the main work is to be at Three Rivers; I naturally supposed that this place would not escape the notice of Baron Steuben, nor, indeed, of Mr. Schyler, who accompanied him; from Fort Brewerton, to a Creek, I think, called Muddy Run, to the Northward of Oswego, there is a good Indian path.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

N.B. There is a plan lately executed by a person of the name of De Witt of this Country, which I recommend to Your Lordship to obtain from New York, as it appears to have been done with singular accuracy.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, 24th July, 1794.

My Lord:

I have the honor to transmit to Your Lordship the address and petition of the House of Assembly of this Province, relative to a road from the settled part of the Lower Province, to the inhabited part of Upper Canada.

Also the proceedings of a Board of Survey on some Stores just arrived, by which Your Lordship will perceive that some of the tools sent up as serviceable, are reported to be unfit for use.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO FRANCIS LE MAISTRE.

NAVY HALL, July 24th, 1794.

Sir:

Colonel Simcoe has received your several letters of the 16th, 23rd, and 26th of June last, relative to a general survey of Stores &c., at the different Posts in this Province, and acquainting him that the Commander in Chief had approved of an allowance to the sailing masters of the Gun Boats upon Lake Ontario.

The letter respecting the non-admission of French people, and the Priest named Le Dru, will be immediately attended to.

I am, Sir, yours &c.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

F. Le Maistre, Esqr. M.S.

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO RICHARD PORTER.

NAVY HALL, July 25th, 1794.

Sir:

As it is possible you may be able to purchase two Schenectady Boats at your Post, His Excellency the Lieut. Governor desires that you will have the goodness to procure them at the cheapest rate, and to draw upon me for their warrant of amount. The intention is that these boats should be under your direction for the purpose of convenience of conveying letters and despatches punctually and speedily to York and Niagara.

The Kingston boat it is intended should proceed every Monday to the Presqu' Isle at Quinte,¹ where it shall be met by one from York, and interchange despatches, and one or more passengers. His Excellency requests you will inform me of the

¹ The water route through the Bay of Quinte was about six miles shorter than by coasting the outer side of the peninsula of Prince Edward County. Hence the inner route was preferred both for shortness and for being protected against storms. The "Carrying Place" would necessarily be the meeting place of the two boats mentioned, although the term "Presqu' Isle" is now applied to the harbor immediately west of it.

time upon an average in which the Kingston boat will be able to perform this service or any particulars which your experience may point out as conducive to the purpose which is meant to be carried into effect.

I am, Sir,

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Capt. Porter, Kingston.

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO C. T. A. SCHOEDDE.

NAVY HALL, July 26th, 1794.

Sir:

It is His Excellency Colonel Simcoe's directions that you prevent the admission of all French people who may come into this Province by the Post under your Jurisdiction.

You will not, however, communicate this order to anybody unless you have occasion to enforce it, or in the event of your being relieved, in which case you will deliver it to your successor in command.

Your letter complaining of Mr. Sparham, the Barrack Master at Kingston, has been received and will be attended to.

I am, Sir, &c.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Captn. Schoedde, Fort Ontario.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, July 24th, 1794.

Sir:

Since I had the honor to write to you on the 22nd inst. by the Nancy, I received a letter from Captain Stiell by express dated the 20th inst., in which he says he has not heard of General Wayne's Army since he wrote on the 10th. He represents that his detachment is now very unhealthy, and that there are thirty two of them in the Surgeon's report. I have directed him to send them to me immediately and will order an equal number from the Companies remaining here. Lieut. Pilkington is very ill and wishes to be removed to Niagara, in consequence of which I propose to send the Chippawa for him, and mean to go to the Miamis in two days, from thence I will send you a perfect report of the situation of the Fort, the number of guns mounted and communicate all the intelligence that reaches me. While there, I will endeavour to make such an arrangement as Your Excellency desires for the speedier communicating all information from thence immediately.

In consequence of your authority I have directed some Tobacco and Vermilion to be purchased here for Colonel McKee, who presses much for them. I contrived before to borrow a small quantity for him.

I was not very apprehensive of the Light Troops or Chickasaws making an attempt on Fort Miamis, and mentioned the circumstance as a paragraph in Captain Stiell's letter to me.

I was next instructed to send the Felicity to Fort Erie or the Grand River for Indian corn, and have just loaded her with provisions, barrack furniture and several

articles required for the repairs of that Post and the Barracks there, which have been some considerable time authorized at Head Quarters, but which I delayed sending there, from a supposition that you would withdraw some part of the Post (Mackinac).

The Felicity will be obliged to make a second trip there, as everything required for the supply of the Post cannot be sent at once. The Ass't Commissary reports to me that he can get a great deal of Indian corn delivered at his store at seven shillings N.Y. Currency a bushel, which he considers cheaper than getting it from Fort Erie, taking into consideration the difference of measure, the waste and the expence of procuring bags. I have desired him to write on this subject to the Commissary at Niagara. If he can procure it here on equal terms, perhaps it would be proper to give some encouragement to the new settlements in this neighbourhood.

The assistant builder is unfortunately absent for a few days, when he returns I will direct the Gun Boat you have ordered to be built. Mean time I will leave directions for the materials to be collected when I go to the Miamis.

We are much reduced in numbers of Seamen, many of them having demanded their discharges, in consequence of having served their time. It is certainly proper to keep faith with all descriptions of men, but I apprehend there will be a great difficulty to replace the men now to be discharged.

The Commodore talks of laying up a Vessel, if he does, it shall be the Felicity on her return from Mackinac, the reason she is sent this time, is her not being properly armed for Lake Erie.

I have the honor to be, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency Lieut. Gov. Simcoe.

THE INFORMATION OF JOHN VORIS¹ A PRISONER.

RAPIDS 24th July, 1794.

The informant says he is a low Dutchman from Hopewell County in the Jerseys and has been a soldier nearly 3 years in Capt. Millars Company of 2nd U.S. Regt. That he was taken about 10 Days ago a little on this side Fort Hamilton being part of a Command consisting of two Companies of Infantry & one Troop of Cavalry making together 190 men, escorting of 300 Packhorses to Fort Washington for Provisions, but being tired he fell behind & was taken by two Indians a part of a band of 12 who brought him here. That he was at Fort Rorodie (a breast work of felled Trees) on the water communication between Fort Grenville & Fort Hamilton during the time of the late attack by the Indians at Fort Recovery & was sent out again immediately on his coming in from Fort Rorodie on his last command in which he was taken, so that he heard but little about the late business at Fort Recovery; he was however informed that Major McMahon of the 4th, Captain Hartshorn of the 1st & Lieut. Craig of the 3rd Regt. were killed, the number of the others killed he does not know. That there are 12 Chickasaws, 4 of the Corn planter's people (one by the name of Charles Waambagh or some such name) & 50 Chactaws (who came about a month ago) with the Army, & that Stiff knee a Seneca from Venango killed himself in Fort Grenville the latter end of last winter.— That most of the Mens time of service in the 1st & 2nd Regts will expire about the

¹ Voorhees?

latter end of next Month & those of the 3rd & 4th Regts. next Spring, but they cannot be prevailed on to enter again on account of their cruel treatment.—That the General about once in two months goes to Fort Jefferson escorted by a Company of Infantry & a Troop of Cavalry, but he never goes further & unless on these occasions, he never stirs out of the fort. That there are 6 Cannon in Fort Grenville, one 9 Pounder, one Six and four 3 Pounders besides 12 small Howitzers. That General Wayne's whole force does not exceed 1500 or 1600 at the most & that 400 of the Kentucky Militia were soon expected to join them. That they have a large Supply of Flour, about 200 Head of Cattle & 50 Sheep, but no Salt provisions, & that it was the report of the Camp that General Wayne cannot move to engage the Indians without further orders from Congress. He adds, he never heard that the English had built a fort on the Banks of this River, or that they were likely to be at War with America.

RAPIDS 25th July 1794.

The informant after recollecting himself & being free from the apprehensions he was under yesterday, further says, that Captain Gibson, Adjutant Drake, & Cornet Posey were wounded in the attack at Fort Recovery, that all the Pack-horsemen, except 7 or 8, were killed, with upwards of Thirty of the Regular Troops, a great many of whom were also wounded. That the Escort consisted of 150 Infantry & 50 Cavalry.

That General Wilkinson left the Army some time ago & is gone to Kentucky, & that Fort Jefferson is now commanded by Major Doyle of the 1st Regt.—He further says that Wells, May, and Millar (3 Spies) were not in the action, for that 2 days before, they returned to Fort Grenville from a Scout, & reported that the Mountain Leader the Chickasaw Chief, was killed.

A. McKEE, S.I.A.

Endorsed:—In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 29 of the 5th Augt. 1794.

FROM THE "GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES" OF
PHILADELPHIA, 25 JULY, 1794.

The conduct of the British and the governor of Upper Canada has been carried of late to such a length, that their intentions to this country can no longer be concealed. We noticed in a former paper, that they had decoyed to their settlements a number of families¹ who were under the most strict obligations to Mr. Williamson, who had advanced to them an enormous sum; we since understand that these same people were afforded every protection and assistance, while carrying off the property of Mr. Williamson entrusted to their care.

The same gentleman, who a few weeks ago, began a settlement at Great Sodus Bay on Lake Ontario, received a few days since a most insolent message from Gov. Simcoe informing him that if he did not take care he would send a party to destroy his settlement.

It is said the Governor of the State and the Secretary of War have been informed of these transactions, that they may take what steps they see fit, to preserve this important place to the United States. Mr. Williamson sold in this place

¹ Wm. Berczy's 64 Bavarian families who settled in Markham Township.

in ten days above 100 lots for building. The harbor is most excellent and affords the only shelter for vessels on the lake from northerly gales.

By the same channel we are well informed that governor Simcoe has not abandoned the post taken at the Miami Rapids, but on the contrary, when this intelligence came away, it was believed that that post would be reinforced from Niagara.

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO C. T. A. SCHOEDDE.

NAVY HALL, July 26th, 1794.

Sir:

You are hereby required and directed to cause to be delivered to Hugh McDonnell, Esqr., Adjutant General of the Militia of this Province, four hundred stand of Arms, with accoutrements complete for that number, and you are to furnish him with one or more of the King's return Batteaux to convey the Arms, &c., to the Eastern District of Upper Canada.

These issues are, of course, to be made out of the quantity lately arrived from Lower Canada.

I am, Sir, &c.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Captn. Schoedde, Fort Ontario.

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO RICHARD PORTER.

NAVY HALL, July 26th, 1794.

Sir:

It is His Excellency the Lieut. Governor's directions that you will order five hundred stand of Arms, with accoutrements complete to be forwarded to Niagara by the first opportunity from the number which have just arrived.

The wall pieces and ordnance stores which came lately to Kingston from Quebec, intended for the Garrisons of Niagara and Detroit, you will likewise forward as soon as possible to the places of their destination.

I am, Sir, &c.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Captn. Porter, Kingston.

CIRCULAR.

NAVY HALL, July 26, 1794.

Circular.

The Lieut. Governor, understanding that it is the general desire of the Officers of the Militia in this Province, to have an uniform established: His Excellency is pleased to direct that the Officers shall provide themselves with such an uniform at such times as shall best suit their convenience.

This uniform is to be a scarlet coat, plain gilt metal buttons, with blue facings, a white waistcoat, with trousers, linen or woollen, or breeches and leggins. The

Lieutenants or Deputy Lieutenants of Counties or Officers commanding, will order the pattern clothing of their respective Battalions, to be made in conformity to this general principle.

The Officers on half pay, if they choose it, will, agreeably to Military practice, wear out the uniform of their respective Corps, which were so honorably distinguished during the course of the late War.

Arms are to be distributed among the Militia. The Adjutant General will receive from the Lieutenants of Counties, or in their absence or non-appointment, from the Deputy Lieutenant or Officer Commanding, a return by which the number of arms so to be established will be proportioned.

The Adjutant General will recommend to the several Lieutenants, &c., &c., to provide themselves with a book or general roll of their Militia, or to authorize some Person to do the same, to take care that every man to whom Arms shall be issued acknowledges the receipt thereof opposite to his name, for the more speedy means of recovering the penalties which by the Act are to be paid and incurred by any Person who shall sell or barter any part of the Arms or Equipments.

It appears to be highly reasonable that due care should be taken by the Lieutenants of the Counties to provide against the careless or wanton destruction of the Arms or Equipments issued from the King's Stores, and there can be no doubt but the Gentlemen in that very high and important trust will devise meanseffectually to answer the object desired.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO J. WALTON.

NAVY HALL, July 26th, 1794.

Sir:

His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, reposing confidence in your integrity, authorizes you to procure six or eight boat builders, at the cheapest rate, to be employed in Governmental purposes in this Province.

I am, Sir, &c.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

J. Walton, Esqr. New York.

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO CAPT. PRATT.

NAVY HALL, July 26th, 1794

Sir:

I am to desire you will receive from me the following instructions.

A French Priest of the name of Le Dru, being expected to arrive at your Post in one of the first Vessels from Detroit I am commanded to desire that you will not permit him to land upon any consideration. You will immediately report his arrival to His Excellency, Col. Simcoe.

I am, Sir, &c.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Capt. Pratt, Fort Erie.

FROM ALEXANDER McKEE TO J. G. SIMCOE.

RAPIDS 26th July, 1794.

Sir:

Your Excellency's Letters of the 10th & 16th Inst. with their enclosures reached me this Morning.

The total separation of the Indians, which I apprehended in my last has been prevented and it is a great satisfaction to me, to be able to announce the prospect of their speedily recollecting themselves: upwards of 300 of those who live at a distance stopped here among whom are some of the principal Chiefs of their several Nations who are now sending Messages to their Villages, for their Warriors to collect themselves immediately and join them at this place—This must necessarily cause the consumption of a much greater Quantity of Provision than has been usual. I think it proper therefore to apprise Your Excellency thereof, that I may receive your commands should such issues be thought inexpedient, but without such supplies it will be impossible either for them or me to remain here.

Several Parties of Indians are now about the Forts which will greatly interrupt Mr. Wayne's communication—A mixed Band of Ottawas, Chipawas and Putiwatimies Consisting of 60 Men Marched from this place on the 22d Inst. and a Party of Weyondots are following them this day. A Party of Delawares also set off from the Glaze on Horseback about the 20th in order to overtake an American Scouting Party who the Evening before Carried off a Miamies Man from the little Glaze. I feel myself much Interested in the Success of this Party, lest the Prisoner may be induced to tell of the separation of the Indians & thereby hasten the advance of the Army—

A small Party of Chipawas brought a Prisoner here two days ago and the Scalps of a Chickasaw and a white Man the information of the Prisoner is herewith enclosed.

On the 22d I wrote to Lieut. Colonel England and informed him of the disregard paid to Your Excellency's Order with regard to selling Rum to the Indians and I am persuaded no effectual stop will be put to it until a punishment is annexed to a breach of the Order—I also informed him in a Subsequent letter, that the french Traders at the Glaze are using all their endeavours to prevail on the Indians to quit that place now become so dangerous and troublesome, and go with them to settle near Lake Michigan and to leave the defence of this Country to those who wish to stay in it and to their Father—Your Excellency will readily anticipate the fatal effects which must result from the adoption of this plan, nor is it impossible that it may be the effects of Intrigues of a more dangerous nature.

The most material Articles of the Indian supplies are not yet come up vizt. Blankets, Guns, Rifles, Ball, flints, Knives, Tobacco & Paint, so that it is out of my power to make a distribution, the two last Articles are so necessary that I made a requisition to Colonel England for the purchase of some but he writes me that he does not consider himself authorized to approve of it and I am now without any of these Articles which to the Indian is as necessary as food and as constantly called for by them.

With regard to great Britain having occupied a Post on this River, it has been uniform ever since the [year] 1781 and was always considered as a dependancy of Detroit—Captain Pots of the 8th Regiment built a Fort at this place in that year and the British Flag has been flying every year since that period, during the Summer Months while I was waiting the arrival of the different Nations of Indians, to deliver to them the presents directed by His Majesty.

This Post was again re-occupied in 1786 by a Party of the 53d Regiment—But the Dependencies of Detroit, on this River, existed from a much earlier date: ever since the Peace of 63 Great Britain has occupied a Post at the Miamies Towns, often as a Garrison & some times as a Trading Post, until General Harmer's invasion in 1790 when the Indians Moved to the Glaze; it then lost its consequence as a Trading Post and the Traders followed the Indians thither: The possession of these Posts has never been given up, and at this day are considered part of the Dependancies of Detroit.

The Wabash Indians have again made their appearance at this Council fire and on the 14th Inst. a Deputation from the Kicapoes, Outatanons and Piankishaws, requested a Council with the Chiefs of the different Nations, at which they expressed their sorrow for having listened to the big Knives and beg of the Confederacy to take Pity on them and receive them again among them as Brothers—They were answered by Egushawa in the Name of the other Nations, who after strongly warning them against an insidious enemy who had already led them from the pursuit of their true Interest, readmitted them into the Confederacy, on condition however, that they immediately collect the Warriors and assemble them at the Glaze as the only proof of their sincerity which they could now give—The Kickapoe Chief expressed great satisfaction & promised that he would go Home & collect his people without delay.

I have the Honor to be Your Excellency's Most
Obedient and faithful Humble Servt.

A. McKEE.

His Excellency Governor Simcoe, &c., &c.

Endorsed:—In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 29. of the 5th Augt. 1794.

(1)

BEATING ORDERS FOR THE ROYAL CANADIAN VOLUNTEERS.

Guy, Lord Dorchester, General and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in North America, &c., &c., &c.

To

These are to authorize and empower you by beat of drum or otherwise forthwith to raise from amongst the Inhabitants of Upper and Lower Canada as many able bodied men whether Natives of Great Britain or Ireland or of the two Provinces as will assist the completing a Company to be commanded by Captain and to consist of seventy five men with the usual establishment of non-commissioned officers to be appointed in proportion to the number of recruits raised. Whenever forty recruits shall have been approved of at Montreal, the Commissions for the Officers shall be granted. This Company to be merely Provincial and for the service of Upper and Lower Canada only, and to serve for the space of three years or during the War; and it is to be understood that neither rank in His Majesty's Army or half pay upon reduction is to be expected in right of such Commissions. It is to be subjected to the control and orders of the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in North America or to such other orders as in His Majesty's wisdom he may think proper to give.

This order shall be and continue in force twelve months from the date hereof.

Given under my hand at the Castle of St. Lewis at Quebec, the twenty eighth

day of July one thousand seven hundred and ninety four and the thirty fourth year of His Majesty's reign.

DORCHESTER.

By His Excellency's Command.
Fran. Le Maistre, M.S.

FROM JOHN JAY TO EDMUND RANDOLPH.

LONDON, 30th July, 1794.

Sir:

The great and, I believe, unexpected events in Flanders, and the unusual number of interesting affairs which constantly demand the attention of the British Cabinet, keep their ministers unceasingly employed, and is, doubtless one reason why more time has not been allotted to our concerns. We are, nevertheless, beginning to do business apparently in good earnest. The minister is (if I may say so) besieged by our British creditors. The subject of the debts is attended with difficulties. The minister has been informed that the law in Virginia relative to the evidence of book debts has, since the war, been made more *strict* than it was before. If the law has been thus changed, and made to apply to pre-existing transactions, there is room for complaint. I wish to have exact information on this head.

I am to see Lord Grenville to-morrow at 11 o'clock, by appointment, on the business of spoliation and impressments, when I hope he will be prepared to say something decisive. I have laid before him several of the cases you sent me, and also the statement by the captains of the vessels taken at Martinique. Of the facts mentioned in the latter, he had never received any information.

I know the impatience that must prevail in our country. At times I find it difficult to repress my own impatience; but for all things there is a season. The importance of moderation and caution in the present moment is obvious, and will, it is to be hoped, continue to operate on the minds and conduct of our fellow-citizens. As yet I do not apprehend that I have committed any mistakes in this business. I wish I may be able to say as much at the conclusion of it.

I have read your thirty odd papers to and from Mr. Hammond and his complaints. You have, in my opinion, managed that matter well; continue, by all means, to be temperate, and put him in the wrong. Let us hope for the best and prepare for the worst. I confess I have hopes, but I also perceive circumstances and causes which may render them abortive.

This letter cannot be satisfactory; it amounts to little more than this; that nothing decisive has yet been done, and that I cannot tell you whether anything, and what, will be done. So is the case; and such will often be the case pending any negotiation or any game connected with events not in our power to control. In both, chances frequently defeat skill, and as frequently give to skill unmerited reputation. For these things I must take *my chance*.

I have the honor to be, &c.

JOHN JAY.

(Correspondence and Public Papers of John Jay, Vol. IV, pp. 36-8.)

EXTRACT FROM THE UNITED STATES GAZETTE.

LICHFIELD, CONN., July 30, 1794.

On Monday last, Serjeant Lent Munson, late of the first sub-legion in Gen. Wayne's army, arrived in this town from captivity among the Ottawa Indians. Mr. Munson's intelligence, observation, and integrity entitle him to full credence.

Mr. Munson escaped by way of the rapids, Detroit and Niagara. He saw the new fort erecting by Gov. Simcoe at the rapids of the Maumee, 15 miles from Lake Erie. The party there at work, instead of quitting the place as has been reported, had later been reinforced by about 100 men. Gov. Simcoe had been there a short time before, but was at Niagara when he came through that place. A regiment, called "the first American regiment or the Queen's Rangers," was raising at Niagara, where the bounty was ten guineas. He was solicited to engage in that corps by Mr. Fanning, one of Gov. Simcoe's aids, who told him that they expected a war with this country. They are making great preparations for war, repairing their forts and arming vessels; three vessels of war were sailing on Lake Erie; two of them carried 12 guns, the other 8, and several gunboats.

The Indians have no expectation of being subdued; they say that when they have cut off two or three more armies of Americans, the United States will make peace with them. On the 4th of June the Indians received their supplies of ammunition from the King's stores.

(Printed in the Gazette of the United States of Philadelphia, 8 August, 1794.)

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO FRANCIS LE MAISTRE.

NAVY HALL, 31st July, 1794.

Sir:

Lieut. Governor Simcoe having thought proper to assist the Six Nations Indians in building a Council House at the Grand River, directs me to mention that he desired that the following things might be issued out of the Stores at Niagara, in part for that incidental purpose, which if it meets the Commander in Chief's approbation he requests may be replaced.

Eighty pounds ten penny nails.

One hundred pounds glass $7\frac{1}{2}$ by $8\frac{1}{2}$.

Twenty eight pounds putty.

Two hundred weight of flat iron.

I am, &c.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

F. Le Maistre Esqr. M.S. Quebec.

EXTRACTS FROM THE DIARY OF DAVID ZEISBERGER.

Thursday, July 31, 1794. . . . Mr. Allen, who was here in the winter, came here by boat by way of Detroit to settle forty miles up the river. He stayed over night and went on the next day.

Monday, August 4. White people went through here for Detroit with cattle,

who have begun a settlement forty or fifty miles up this river, thirty families strong, having lately come over from Europe. The land will be very thickly settled, and grows perceptibly. We should have gained nothing then if we had settled as far again up the river.—*Translation by Eugene F. Bliss, II. p. 367.*

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

NAVY HALL, 2nd August, 1794.

No. 28.

Sir:

I do myself the honor of enclosing the Speech with which I closed the Sessions of the Meeting of the Houses of the Legislature, & the Observations on the Bills which were passed during their sitting—I also submit to you the Memorandum respecting the Marriage Act, relative to the report of His Majesty's Advocate, Attorney & Solicitor General, as transmitted to me by Mr. King in his letter of the 12th of July, 1793—These Observations and the memorandum have been furnished me by the late Chief Justice Osgoode in conformity to those ideas which in my former letters on this Subject I have transmitted to you.

The acts themselves together with those of the former Sessions duly authenticated, in the manner which you directed in your Letter of the 16th March will be transmitted by the first opportunity that shall conveniently offer.

It is with great satisfaction that I have lately received a Letter from Mr. Rose by the direction of the Lords of the Treasury authorizing me to appoint an Agent for the purchasing of all Provisions that this Province can afford for the maintenance of the King's Troops & Garrisons; as I have every hope that this arrangement will not only be a saving to the Public, but I am confident nothing can be more agreeable to the Inhabitants of this Province than to have the most open market for their produce, which hitherto has been unavoidably subject to a severe monopoly.

I have the honor to be Sir, with the utmost
respect, Your most Obedient humble Servant

J. GRAVES SIMCOE.

Right Honorable Henry Dundas, &c., &c., &c.

Endorsed:—Navy Hall, 2d Augt. 1794. Lt. Govr. Simcoe. R. 17th Octr. No. 28. Ansd. 7th Novr. Four Inclosures.

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO JOHN SMITH.

NAVY HALL, Aug. 2nd, 1794.

Sir:

His Excellency Colonel Simcoe directs me to inform you that the detachment of His Majesty's Corps of Queen's Rangers, under the command of Captain Smith, now doing duty in the Garrison of Niagara, are to proceed to York, Tuesday next, the 5th instant.

I have the honor to be, &c.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Major Smith, Commdng. Niagara.

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO CAPTAIN SEWARD.

NAVY HALL, August 2nd, 1794.

Sir:

A considerable quantity of ammunition and ordnance stores having lately arrived at Kingston from Lower Canada, I am to acquaint you that I am directed to write to the Commandant of that Garrison to order the non-commissioned officers in charge of stores and the rest of the Artillery Men at that Post to be employed in making up musket ball cartridges to the amount of thirteen barrels of powder, which order you will be pleased to facilitate in its execution by any further instructions you may think proper to give the Artillery at Kingston, of course, not contravening the orders of the Commanding Officer there.

I have the honor to be, &c.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Capt. Seward.

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO DAVID SHANK.

NAVY HALL, August 4th, 1794.

Sir:

His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, having thought proper to order Captain Smith's Company to be hutted at the Forty Mile Creek, I am to desire that you will order Ensign Pearce, with any Privates or Non-Commissioned Officers of the Company at York, to be sent immediately to join Captain Smith, who will arrange with you all internal matters.

I have the honor to be, &c.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Captn. Shank, Queen's Rangers.

FROM ALEXANDER McKEE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

RAPIDS, 2nd August $\frac{3}{4}$ past Eleven O'clock at night.

Sir:

An express arrived this moment from the Glaize informing me that a deserter came in this morning, but from his dress he does not appear to be a common person, and he tells the Indians that he left Fort Recovery yesterday morning; that 1,100 troops and 400 Militia were to commence their march this morning for Kettle Creek, where they have decided to build a Fort. In the meantime the cavalry are to push immediately for the Glaize, but he thinks it probable in consequence of his desertion, that the Light Horse will be at the Glaize this evening or to-morrow morning. I send this by express that you may be apprised of this information with all possible dispatch.

I have the honor to be, &c.

A. McKEE.

Colonel England, Detroit.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

CHIPPAWA, OFF TURTLE ISLAND, 2nd August, 1794.

Sir:

I am thus far on my return from Miamis Fort which I left at seven o'clock this morning, and now write by the Ottawa, which I directed should meet me here, as well to communicate the latest intelligence from the Miamis Country to Your Excellency, as to take on board Lieutenant Pilkington, who previous to my leaving Detroit, requested me to have an opportunity of returning to Niagara.

My visit to Fort Miamis at this time was principally occasioned by a report I received from thence that the Detachment was in general sick, that consequently the work there went on very slowly, and that Lieutenant Pilkington was tired of his situation, and seeing no probability of the work he had undertaken being accomplished in proper time, was anxious to leave it. I took with me some fresh non-commissioned Officers and men, reduced the duty there and the detachments on Turtle Island encouraged the men by an allowance of Rum, desired an exertion of a few days, and while I remained there made considerable progress in the different works, and prevailed on Lieutenant Pilkington to remain at least ten days longer with his artificers, at which time the Fort will be well out of danger of assault. As Lieutenant Pilkington said he had your directions to return and bring away the men of the Rangers, his delay was occasioned more by entreaty than by order on my part, but his going away at this time would be attended with a severe check to the work, and the very desirable end of putting the Fort out of danger of assault not accomplished.

While I was at the Fort three six pounders were mounted, and one Nine pounder left there to be mounted whenever the proper place was prepared for it, which by report will be in three days. The other Guns directed by Your Excellency are on board the Gun Boats, laying here, waiting the orders of Captain Stiell, and I expect before Lieutenant Pilkington goes away that the whole will be mounted *properly*.

Both he and Lieutenant Adye have solicited me to send to Fort Miamis two Howitzers that I have mounted at Detroit on travelling carriages, but I did not wish to send any ordnance that Your Excellency did not direct, and informed them that I should wait for your orders on the subject. They may be of service, but if the number of their pieces of ordnance is increased they should have more Artillery men.

The climate in the neighbourhood of the Fort is now very unhealthy, as well to the natives as the Garrison. There are at present above forty men of the Detachment sick. The Surgeon who has charge of them reported to me that their sickness proceeded principally from remarkable thick fogs in the morning and evening, and constant work during the intense heat of the day, and strongly recommended some Rum to be given to them to qualify the bad water they are obliged to make use of, in consequence of which I have directed a proportion of Rum to be issued to them, relying on your orders to authorize it, as I am confident you will conceive the expence well applied if it preserves the health of the soldiers, and enables the Detachment at this particular time to accomplish the very desirable purpose they are employed on.

Should you not approve of a small proportion of Rum being occasionally issued to them I lay my account to paying for it.

I would be happy to hear from Your Excellency if possible previous to my sending for Lieutenant Pilkington, which I promised him should be in ten days from hence.

I refer you to Colonel McKee's letter which I herewith enclose for an account of General Wayne's Army, and the situation of the Indians of this Country. Nothing particular has transpired during my stay at Fort Miamis.

I should be glad the Dunmore was dispatched from Fort Erie with all convenient speed.

I have the honor to be, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency Lieutenant Governor Simcoe.

FROM ALEXANDER McKEE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

RAPIDS, 4th August, 1794.

Sir:

I now send in the deserter mentioned in my letter of the 2nd, the force now on foot and the declared object of its advance to this place, seem to require that His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor should be possessed as soon as possible of the information of this man and it is on that account that I have forwarded him immediately to you. He may possibly assume the character he appears under to deceive us for it is not likely a young man like him would desert the Militia at so great a personal risk to look after a brother who by his own account was in security at Detroit.

Enclosed I send you the information and am with great respect, &c.

A. McKEE.

Colonel England.

THE INFORMATION OF ROBERT NEWMAN, A DESERTER.

RAPIDS, 4th August, 1794.

The Informant says that he was born in Virginia and has resided near the Falls of the Ohio two years, that he joined General Wayne's Army with the Kentucky Militia, of which he was an Acting Quarter Master on the 23rd of July, and this Reinforcement consists of 1500 men well mounted and engaged for 21 months from the 11th July, and that he left the Army in hope of getting to Detroit where, as he had been informed by another prisoner who escaped, his brother now lived. That on the 27th General Wayne commenced his march with his whole Army, now 3,300 men and that at the time of his leaving it they were advanced 21 miles on this side of Fort Recovery, he having surveyed the road for the Army that distance to the River Miami where they were erecting a Fort. That General Wayne's intention is to advance forming a chain of posts first to the Glaize and afterwards to this place, where he understands there is a British Fort, which he has positive orders to reduce, and that his operations against Detroit will commence from hence in the Spring. That there are only as yet two Cannon (6 pounders) with the Army, and about 21 small howitzers, but it is expected their ordnance will be increased by the time they commence their attack on this Fort. That the number of Indians attached to their Army, was until lately, about 1500 but since the action

of Fort Recovery in which some of them were killed, they are reduced to less than 210.

He further adds that it was calculated it would take 21 days for the Army to get to this place from the time of their moving from Fort Greenville on the 27th July.

A. McKEE, S.I.A.

FROM JOHN JAY TO GEORGE WASHINGTON.

LONDON, 5 August, 1794.

(Extract.)

"I am this moment returned from a long conference with Lord Grenville. Our prospects become more and more promising as we advance in the business. The compensation cases, (as described in the answer), and the amount of damages will, I have reason to hope, be referred to the decision of commissioners to be mutually appointed by the two governments, and the money paid without delay on their certificates, and the business closed as speedily as may be possible. The question of admitting our vessels into the Islands, under certain limitations, is under consideration, and will soon be decided. A treaty of commerce is on the carpet. All other things to be agreed, the posts will be included. They contend, that the article about the *negroes* does not extend to those, who came in on their proclamations, to whom (being vested with the property in them by the right of war) they gave freedom, but only to those who were *bona fide*, the property of Americans when the war ceased. They will I think insist, that British debts, so far as *injured* by lawful impediments, should be *repaired* by the United States by decision of mutual commissioners. These things have passed in *conversation*, but no commitments on either side; and not to have any official weight or use whatever.

"The King observed to me the other day: 'Well, Sir, I imagine you begin to see, that your mission will probably be successful.' 'I am happy, may it please your Majesty, that you entertain that idea.' 'Well, but don't you perceive, that it is like to be so?' 'There are some recent circumstances' (the answer to my representation, &c.), 'which induce me to flatter myself that it will be so.' He nodded with a smile, signifying that it was to those circumstances that he alluded. The conversation then turned to indifferent topics. This was at the drawing-room.

"I have never been more unceasingly employed, than I have been for some time past and still am; I hope for good, but God only knows. The *William Penn* sails in the morning. I write you these few lines, to let you see that the business is going on as fast as can reasonably be expected; and that it is very *important* that peace and quiet should be preserved for the present. On hearing last night that one of our Indiamen had been carried into Halifax, I mentioned it to Lord Grenville. He will write immediately by the packet on the subject. Indeed I believe they are endeavoring to restore a proper conduct towards us *everywhere*; but it will take some time before the effects will be visible. I write all this to you in *confidence*, and for your own *private* satisfaction. I have not time to explain my reasons but they are *cogent*. I could fill some sheets with interesting communications, if I had leisure; but other matters press and must not be postponed; for

'there is a tide in the affairs of men,' of which every moment is precious. What-ever may be the issue, nothing in my power to insure success shall be neglected nor delayed."

(W. C. Ford. The Writings of Washington, 12, pp. 477-8. note.)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

No. 29.

NAVY HALL, August 5th, 1794.

Sir:

Having an opportunity by Capt. Vandeleur, (late of the Garrison at the Miamis,) who returns to Great Britain on Promotion, I think it proper to avail myself of the means, & of briefly stating to you the precise situation of this Country.

The Indian Nations after an Action on the 30th of May with a convoy in which they were successful, pursued their Enemy to the fort Recovery, where they met with some loss, which together with the Want of Provisions, their having got several Scalps, & having *struck* their blow, occasioned them in a great manner to Separate & return home; leaving Runners however, to call them together should Mr. Wayne advance.

Their principal Chiefs have called upon Lt. Colonel England for the Assistance of twenty Men and two Pieces of Cannon to attack Fort Recovery.

The Fort at The Miamis is in a compleat State of defence.

The Troops of the United States have *not established* themselves at the Presqu' Isle.

The Corn Planter whose residence has been for some time past in the interior of the Country has sent, not to the Sachems, but to the *Warriors* of the Six Nations, to join him, to escort his Women and Children in safety to Cataragoras or The Buffaloe Creek as may be Thought expedient, & in all Appearance, Hostilities will commence between the Six Nations & the People of the States.

The Onondagoes have principally left the Genesee Country, & Messages have been sent to the Oneidas to invite them to rejoin the Confederacy.

The State of New York are establishing Posts at Fort Stanwix, Fort Brewerton, The Three Rivers Point, & Oswego Falls within twelve miles of our Post.—They also mean to erect a post to cover the Onondago Salt Works; a manufactory of considerable importance to them in case of a rupture with G Britain.—

The Inhabitants of the Genesees I hear, are quitting of that Country; no new Settlers arrive there, & many have emigrated into this Province.

Under a mature Consideration of the existing situation of This Country, & viewing it in the most favorable light, It is apparent that to the Westward, (the Detroit & Miamis) the Indians *as they represent*, cannot maintain their Country on a defensive System against the Chain of Garrisons or prevent the Advance of General Wayne without our Assistance. This Assistance must absolutely be extended to the demolition of Fort Recovery & if possible, that of Fort Jefferson, or the entrenched Camp at Grenville.—to effect this Measure Good Officers good Troops Secrecy, & Expedition are absolutely required—

In respect to Lake Erie the same reasoning holds good to prevent the Armies of the States from occupying of Presq' Isle, or remaining at Le Boeuf, or even Fort Franklin—

The Ontario must be preserved by the destruction of the Genesee Settlements, & the assembling all the force that We can possibly collect both Naval & Military

to establish ourselves, at Oswego or rather the *Three Rivers Point*—This Position, & the command of the Smaller lakes of the Genesees will cover Upper Canada & best preserve The Communication of the St. Lawrence. I think it necessary not to lose the present Opportunity of making this Statement to you, Sir, of such a System of Operations as appear to me to be indispensable for the Safety of this Colony.

I should hope there can be no difficulty in supplying this Province with a large reinforcement of Seamen; & a competent Encrease of the Land forces—I would prefer to do great things with a small Army rather than a little, with a large one; but where the King's American Empire is at Stake It is my duty to detail, as far as is practicable, what I conceive to be essential for its Preservation; & the being able to establish a force on the Oswego River sufficient to prevent the Entry of the Armies of the United States into Upper Canada, Is in my Estimation the first Object that requires attention; Such a force will scarcely be in safety unless the Avenues to Lake Erie are shut up in some such manner as I have done myself the honor of representing—It would give me great Pleasure to hear that Capt. Shank or some such officer was directed to establish the Provincial Naval Arsenal on this Lake.

I have taken every step in my power to forward the construction of Gun Boats, & as no Artificers are to be obtained in this Province, I have sent a confidential Person to New York to endeavour to procure some Boat Builders from that Place—

I have the honor to be with the utmost Respect, Sir,

Your most Obedient & Most humble Servant,

J. G. SIMCOE.

to the Rt. Honble Henry Dundas

I do myself the honor of transmitting a Letter from Colonel McKee which I have this moment received.

Endorsed:—Navy Hall 5th Augt. 1794. Lt. Govr. Simcoe. Rd. 17th Oct'r. No. 29. (Two Inclosures.)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

NAVY HALL, August 5th, 1794.

Private.

Sir:

Having a safe opportunity by Capt. Vandeleur I cannot resist offering to you the enclosed Communication which I received thro' the Secretary of this Province Mr. Jarvis from the Governor of the State of Vermont and which I have formerly transmitted to Lord Dorchester.

Many paragraphs have lately appeared in the New York Papers intimating that the Inhabitants of Vermont are disposed to commence Hostilities against Canada—some very respectable people of Vermont were with me when I received such News Papers who without hesitation affirmed that they were fabricated by the People of the State of New York, that they did not contain the Sense of the People of Vermont, but were meant to stir up enmity between the British Government and the Vermontese.

I enclose to you a News Paper that has lately fallen into my hands and which contains some paragraphs that evidently are of such a texture and fabrication.

I cannot but deplore that means have not been taken to discriminate the foundation on which the Proprietors of Lands in Vermont are at issue with the Proprietors of Lands in Canada from the general and more extensive Principle on which Great Britain retains the Jurisdiction of Certain territories which surround those Posts; the evacuation of which has been suspended until the Treaty of 1783 shall be satisfactorily completed.

The Distinction, before I left England, I did myself the honor of remarking to you, Sir, and enforcing the policy of an immediate Settlement of this Contention—The Proprietors of Vermont must inevitably be now forced to shelter themselves under the right that State has to assert its jurisdiction, for the recovery of those lands; which jurisdiction they probably would not have concerned themselves about, could they from any Quarter have received their profits—and on the side of Vermont, Great Britain is engaged in a dispute, almost inveterate, which has not for its basis a National Cause, but originates from an unjustifiable grant of the Canadian Government, which could not have been supported, had not the Revolution taken place, and the States of New York and New Hampshire been separated from Great Britain.

There are Sir, abundant proofs in Your Office of the facts as mentioned by Governor Chittenden, and Lt. Colonel Mathews¹ the late General Sir F. Haldimand's Aid de Camp, and Sir Henry Clinton can illustrate them.

The people of Vermont with whom I have spoken all agree, that State would gladly embrace and support a neutrality, that their Country might not become the Seat of War.

To what extent the People of Vermont who are friendly to Great Britain may be of real Service, It is impossible to say, but there are such probable grounds for supposing they may become highly beneficial that I feel it a duty to make this present statement to you, Sir, most earnestly hoping that Lord Dorchester has already thought it an Object worthy of his Consideration.

I have the honor to be Sir, Your most
Obedt. & humble Servt.

J. G. SIMCOE.

The Rt. Honble. H. Dundas. &c., &c., &c.

Endorsed:—Navy Hall, 5th Augt. 1794. Lt. Govr. Simcoe. R. 17th Octr. Private, Ansd. 8th Novr. (2 Inclosures).

J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, Augst. 5th, 1794.

My Lord:

I do myself the honor of enclosing to Your Lordship an extract of a letter from Captn. Doyle, commanding at Michilimackinac, to Lieut.-Colonel England, dated the 8th of last month, an extract of a letter from Lieut.-Colonel England on the 22nd of July to me, and a letter from him, dated the 24 of July.

A deputation of Indian Chiefs belonging to the Six Nations came here yesterday to communicate the intelligence of O'Beal's, the Corn Planter, with his people intending to move immediately to Catarogoras, and asking some corn and a quantity of Provisions, which request I complied with.

¹ Robert Mathews, military secretary to Haldimand, St. Leger, and Hope, 1778-86.

I have thought proper to authorize the purchasing of Indian corn at Detroit, alluded to in one of the enclosed letters from Lt. Col. England, as the quantity already procured in this settlement does not at present exceed thirteen hundred bushels, which cannot conveniently be conveyed there, as the *Felicity* is ordered to Lake Huron, and the price is not more at Detroit than at this place, from whence possibly it may not be prudent to spare it.

I transmit to Your Lordship a report of Brigade Major Littlehales's, agreeable to an enquiry I directed him to make of the different Officers of the Naval Department belonging to this Lake, then in harbour, relative to the payment of the Marine.

I am to request, in order to save time and a heavy public expense, if the purchases are to be made in this Country, that Your Lordship would be pleased to send up the material for twelve Provincial Gun Boats, estimable in the same manner as you shall have approved of, for those which you build at Kingston on the Military Establishment, and I will pay for those materials in such manner as Your Lordship shall think proper to point out.

I have just received a letter from Col. McKee, dated the 26 of July. I have directed Lt. Col. England to supply Col. McKee with such Provisions as he shall require.

I also enclose an extract of a letter from Lt.-Col. England, of the 2nd of Aug., for Your Lordship's perusal and decision.

Lieut.-Col. England represents that in ten days the Garrison at the Miamis will be out of danger from assault, and I understand that after that period Lt. Pilkington will return to his duty at Niagara.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, Aug. 5, 1794.

My Lord:

As the propriety of the Militia of this Province, in case they should be called out, being placed upon the same footing with that of Lower Canada, is self-evident, I shall esteem it a favor if Your Lordship would be pleased to communicate to me what are your Intentions on this Subject, and what Pay, Emoluments, or Advantages the Militia are respectively to receive in such a Contingency.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

The Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

A SPEECH DELIVERED TO COLONEL ENGLAND BY TARHEE,
MAYOUWATEMA, WAHOOMAT AND TOTARAS, PRINCIPAL
CHIEFS OF THE WYANDOTS.

DETROIT, 5th August, 1794.

Father:

And you Ottawas assembled here, listen to us concerning the Reports we have received from the Glaize. We are now assembled with you and wish to tell you our minds. We are much distressed to hear that our Enemies are so near us.

Father: Listen to us Wyandots. Remember well what you told us when in Council at Sandusky. You said that you would only lay the Hatchet down alongside of you and us, but seeing at the same time that it was exposed to view, we then told you it would be prudent to cover it with leaves to prevent our warriors from seeing it and making use of it.

Father: Listen again. You told us at that time that if ever any Enemies should begin to threaten us we should let you know it and you would support us. We hope you will now fulfill your promises, rise upon your feet and stand by us. If you will comply and do what we request of you, we shall all be of one heart, and perhaps gain more strength by such support than ever before. You know what it is to carry on war with the Americans. You have tried them once and perhaps you can do it again; otherwise we must both be in a miserable state. You daily hear how they talk of you; you cannot help hearing it, as we poor Indians heard of it who have very little understanding. Can any Nation upon earth put up with such abuse? Certainly not. You are a warrior.

Father: Listen. Your children are now assembled. I tell you our situation is very distressing, and I believe yours must be so too. You see the Americans are very near us. They say they will be shortly at the Foot of the Rapids, where they intend remaining all winter, and next spring they will come to Detroit, take you by the hand and sling you across the River.

Father: We request you to be strong and not to neglect us; rise upon your feet along with your warriors and help us. If you do not, we cannot go to war any more.

Father: These are my last words: be strong, do not forget us, and take care of our women and children, for what will become of us if you do not protect us?

Strings of black wampum.

Father: Listen. Here is the Hatchet you gave us which was buried under the leaves, and which we now return to you to sharpen for you and us, that we may be the better enabled to strike the Big Knives. Be expeditious in rubbing off the rust, as no time is to be lost. If you delay doing this, we shall be undone. Then returned the Hatchet.

A belt of black Wampum with fifteen Rows.

R. G. England. Lt.-Colonel.

FROM THE MARQUIS OF BUCKINGHAM TO LORD GRENVILLE.

WEYMOUTH, August 6, 1794.

"I fear very much for Colonel Simcoe's situation, if *all* the posts, and particularly Detroit, are *immediately* ceded. I understood from him that he conceives Detroit a very essential post, if it is intended to keep up any communication with the Ohio, or to preserve the Indians on the Eastern side of it; but the population of the settlement is at least 3,000 souls, who must not be turned over, but must have ample time to remove; and till they are removed the fort must remain to us. It was Simcoe's idea to establish a large town at the *embouchure* into Lake Sinclair of his river Thames (or La Tranche), where some settlers are already fixed. Old Michilimackinack is abandoned, and a small post established in an island near it, within their line; that island must be struggled for, as I understand that it has the only secure anchorage at the mouth of the Straits. Niagara cannot be given up until a new road is finished, which is begun from Lake Ontario to the lake Erie on the western shore; for, until some road is opened, the whole supply for the forts and settlements on the upper lakes must stand still, as well as the trade. He is very sanguine in his hopes that the communication will be opened and settled by families from York (Toronto) to the Lake Huron by Lake Simcoe to Maghadosh Bay before winter, which will entirely divert the course of the fur trade. You have the best information on all this, but I owe it to him to state his ideas. He thinks Oswego may be given up whenever you will, as being wholly useless. I will venture to suggest to you an idea which has occurred to me, and which is surely very well worth attention, and that is to settle a commercial intercourse with America for the West Indies, and blend the discussion of it with the convention treaty respecting their posts. Your knowledge of the subject will show you the advantage of gaining time at present; and I have reason to think that America would conceive it a very great boon, which it certainly would be; but either the direct or indirect boon seems unavoidable, for they will trade by exchanging provisions and lumber for molasses and sugar, in spite of you."

(Historical Manuscripts Commission, Dropmore Papers, Vol. II, pp. 619-11.)

FROM THE MARQUIS OF BUCKINGHAM TO LORD GRENVILLE.

WEYMOUTH, August 10, 1794.

I am glad that your American Treaty goes on to your liking. We have indeed enough upon our hands.

(Historical Manuscripts Commission, Dropmore Papers, Vol. II, pp. 613-4.)

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, August 6th, 1794.

Sir:

I did myself the honor of writing to you on the 2nd inst. from Turtle Island, on my return from Fort Miamis, since when I received the two letters from Colonel McKee, copies of which I herewith enclose Your Excellency. I also enclose the

information given by Robert Newman, who calls himself a deserter from the Kentucky Militia under the Command of General Scott, and who Colonel McKee sent in here yesterday evening, as I conceived it highly necessary that Your Excellency should be in possession of this information as soon as possible, I now dispatch a private vessel (the *Saguina*) with it and will send a duplicate by land. From a variety of circumstances Colonel McKee apprehends that Newman is not the character he represents. I, therefore, immediately on his arrival here, ordered him on Board His Majesty's Armed Snow the *Chippawa*, where he is to remain till she sails to Fort Erie. I informed him that his being ashore would be attended with some risk and danger to him, and that he would be perfectly at his ease on Board, where I directed him bedding and a supply of provisions and told him that he should be forwarded to Your Excellency with all convenient speed.

From the information he gives it is natural to suppose that something decisive must immediately happen in the neighborhood of the Glaize. I, therefore, avail myself of the *Saguina* sailing and detain the *Chippawa* for a few days to transmit any further intelligence that may reach me, and as I don't consider it perfectly secure to send Newman in the *Saguina*, I also detain him till the *Chippawa* sails.

By a letter from Captain Hull I find that his Detachment continues still very sickly, and that those men who I report to you to have been taken to him are also in general attacked with the prevailing fever. I have, notwithstanding, sent him yesterday a few more men, and Lieutenant Adye, who came in from Fort Miamis with me, sent him eleven artificers and proposes to send him on Friday next eleven more that he has picked up here. I find that Lieutenant Pilkington is still very anxious to return to Niagara with his artificers, notwithstanding the approach of the Americans and the great exertions necessary to be made to put the Fort in a proper state of defence. I no doubt promised to send a vessel for him, but it was at a time when the Fort was not threatened, but I now hope to have your authority to detain him longer. I have spoken to Mr. Baby to collect some Canadians at the River aux Raisins, which I propose to send to Fort Miamis to clear away the wood and to assist in doing whatever may be considered essentially necessary for the Defence of the Post, and he has promised me every assistance in his Power. Should Your Excellency conceive a Reinforcement absolutely requisite, It must come from Niagara, as I have already sent from this Post every man that I think can with propriety be spared from it. I am pressed for the Howitzers, which I shall delay sending till I receive Your Excellency's orders.

I was this morning called to a Council of some Huron Chiefs who made me a speech and returned the hatchet they received from Lieutenant-Governor Hamilton in the year 1777 or 1776. They were very peremptory and pointed in their demands for assistance in the Field from their Father and seemed discontented at its being so long delayed. I immediately replied to them and have the honor to send Your Excellency their Speech and my reply and also the hatchet which they desired should be returned, and which I promised them I would do. You will perceive that I was as cautious as possible in my reply, but suppose the time not far distant when I shall be able to speak out.

I have the honor to be, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL ENGLAND'S ANSWER DELIVERED
IMMEDIATELY IN COUNCIL.

Children:

I have heard what you have said and weighed it well.

Children: I have heard what you say was communicated to you by your father, Lieutenant Governor Hamilton, when he presented you the hatchet, which you have now returned to me.

Children: I have also heard what you say passed at the Council at Sandusky, at the conclusion of the last war, when the hatchet was hid under the leaves.

Children: As I am very sensible that your Father in no one instance ever intended to deceive you, I am certain he will not withdraw from you the protection you say he promised you at the different Councils you allude to.

Children: You cannot be ignorant that the war you say the Big Knives threaten your Father and his Warriors with, is occasioned by his friendship and alliance with you, and the jealousies and discontent that they feel in consequence of his uniform attachment to you.

Children: You cannot be ignorant that your Father has sent some of his Warriors to take Post at the Foot of the Rapids where you will find the same protection that your Father's Posts always afford you, and such provisions and presents as you may have occasion for and have ever been in the custom of receiving from him.

Children: You desire me to rise on my feet and lead you against the Big Knives and that you will all then rise up and follow me with a good heart.

Children: It is unnecessary to acquaint you that though I am sent here by your Great Father to protect you that it is not in my power to march with his Warriors to war without his orders.

Children: I shall this day send the Speech you have now made to me to your Great Father by one of his Ships, but lest the Winds may prevent her going as fast as I wish, I will also send it by land, and when I receive his Answer I will meet you and acquaint you with it. In the meantime I recommend it to you to be of one mind with your brothers at the Glaize to rise up immediately and to go and join them. You will meet Colonel McKee at the Foot of the Rapids, who is at all times ready to give you every assistance and advice in his power.

Children: You may be assured that your Father will extend the same protection to your wives and children now that they have ever experienced from him and that provisions and clothing will be ordered for them.

(A Copy.)

R. G. ENGLAND.

Detroit, August 6th, 1794.

FROM JOHN BUTLER TO JOSEPH CHEW.

NIAGARA, 7th August, 1794.

Dear Sir:

Two Indians of the 7 Nations of Lower Canada are arrived from the Westward, they request me to Mention to you that they have not received any Clothing at this post.—A Mohawk Indian is also arrived from the Rapids of the Miamis, he Informs me that the Chiefs are Assembled at that Place, and that a Number

of the Warriors are hunting, that General Wayne keeps close in his Quarters, that the Indians keep a good Look out and are Determined to defend their Country.

The Stationary for the Indian Departmt. is not yet arrived as we are in Want of it I will be glad you will send it as soon as Convenient.

The Onondagas, Cayugas & Tuscaroras are Daily coming in from Old Ononda and Thereabouts where they have been Settled Since the Peace. I understand that the Onondagas have sold their Reservation near the Salt springs¹—have nothing further to inform you of at present.

I remain, &c.

JOHN BUTLER.

Joseph Chew, Esqr.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, Aug. 8th, 1794.

My Lord:

At the moment of the Onondago's sailing, I have received the enclosed letters relative to the P. Le Dru, who is ordered back to Detroit and out of the Province. Perhaps under present circumstances, it may be worthy of Your Lordship's consideration whether some truly loyal Clergyman might not be of use in the settlement at the River au Raisin, to counteract any improper opinions and transactions, if such a person can be found in Lower Canada.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

EXTRACT FROM THE UPPER CANADA GAZETTE, 8TH AUGUST, 1794.

NIAGARA, August 8th, 1794.

On Thursday last was held at this place a petty Session of the Magistrates of this District, consisting of Peter Russell, Robert Hamilton, Robert Kerr, and William Jarvis, Esqrs.

When they appointed a Town Meeting to be held at Newark on Saturday, the 17th Inst. for the purpose of electing the Town and Parish Officers as directed by the late act of the Legislature.

We hear that the same day has been fixed for the Electors of the Township of Mount Dorchester [Stamford] by Robert Hamilton and John Burch,² Esqrs.

¹Syracuse, N. Y.

²John Burch was born in London, England and emigrated to America at an early age. When the revolution began he was settled as a merchant at Albany, N.Y. His property was seized because of his loyalty and he retired to his farm on the east branch of the Delaware. A party of men was sent to apprehend him but he escaped and took refuge in a neighbouring swamp from which he saw his buildings burnt. He came to Upper Canada and was granted lands near the mouth of Chippawa Creek. He built the first mill at Bridgewater above Niagara Falls. On the organization of the "upper country" into judicial districts he was appointed a magistrate and superintendent of loyalist settlers. He died at his residence there, 8 March, 1797.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, August 8th, 4 o'clock P.M.

Sir:

I wrote to Your Excellency on the 6th inst. by the *Saguina* and now have the honor to forward to you a duplicate of my letter and also duplicates of the different enclosures sent you. I was unwillingly obliged to delay sending this express to you until this moment as I could not with the assistance of every one I could apply to, find a proper person to entrust my dispatches with. Since I wrote on the 6th inst., I have not heard from the Miamis which makes me imagine the advance of General Scott and his Militia is not so rapid as Newman mentioned in his information.

Though I mentioned to you in my letter of the 6th Inst., that I could not with propriety spare any more men from here, yet conceiving the Post at the Miamis to be in a critical situation, I have ventured to send fifty more men under the command of Major Campbell to reinforce that Post. They are to embark immediately in the *Chippawa* and I remain here until I receive your further orders.

I propose that Commodore Grant should go in the *Chippawa* to Turtle Island where he will remain with her and the Gun Boats now there to act as occasion may require and to send up provisions and such stores as may be wanted for the Garrison. The *Chippawa* will be full armed. I venture to send in her the Howitzers that I before mentioned to be landed as Major Campbell may think necessary. I think they may be of great use in case of attack. We will not have a single King's Vessel here after the *Chippawa* sails. Therefore hope you will be pleased to direct that they may not be delayed at Fort Erie, particularly as detaining the *Chippawa* for the service I have mentioned will break in on the Transport. I shall not be sparing of expresses by land at this critical time.

As Your Excellency already knows the strength of this Garrison and its situation I will not mention more of a Reinforcement for it than to submit the necessity of such a measure to you.

I have the honor to be, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe, &c., &c., &c.

DETROIT, August 8th, 6 o'clock P.M.

Sir:

I had just dispatched my express to you when I received the information from Colonel McKee that I have now the honor to forward to you. Major Campbell and his Reinforcement, which I will make as respectable as possible, will embark to-morrow. I don't conceive the use of tar the deserter says General Wayne has with him except it is for Boats and Batteaux which he proposes to build.

I am, Sir, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency, Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe, &c., &c., &c.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

No. 31.

NAVY HALL, August 10th, 1794.

Sir:

At this crisis I think it necessary to communicate to you a Copy of the enclosed letter which I have lately sent to the Commander-in-Chief, Lord Dorchester—Major General Clarke had formerly transmitted to you, Sir, those very momentous Points on which I requested the *Orders* of the Officer, Chief in Command, whose office and responsibility in my judgment might necessarily enable him to illustrate or decide on what I desired an explanation.

I did not make this application to the Major General, as I acquainted him, until I thought it probable that the Commander in Chief had arrived.

On His Lordship's arrival, He, by his letter of the 7th of October, No. 1, to which He has lately been pleased to refer me, informed me, "The several answers given by Major General Clarke relative to Orders and instructions which appear to me to decide immediately on Peace or War, I think discreet and prudent, and there I shall leave that business for the present."

The whole of the Letter I have formerly transmitted, Sir, for your Perusal.

In a communication with me relative to the Claims of Mr. Ogden and the State of New York, dated January 27th, 1794, His Lordship says "Mr. Ogden, I take it for granted, will receive a proper Answer from Mr. Hammond, who is best qualified to speak the language that will be approved by the King's Ministers."

The 17th of February is the date of His Lordship's Letter, in which he ordered me to establish a Post at the Miamis.

His Lordship always choosing to consider me, not as selected for important Duties, but simply as Commanding the Troops in Upper Canada, and to use his expressions "Your situation as such not being liable to fluctuate as formerly I consider of no small advantage to the King's Service," most undoubtedly leaves me in respect to him, without any degree of Responsibility beyond that of an accidental Command, and under no kind of necessity of risking my character by any misconstruction of Orders issuing from his Authority and on which in my judgment Events render it most necessary that I should in due Season desire His Lordship's further Instructions; but which He thinks proper neither to answer or explain.

I beg to enclose the Extract of a Letter from Lord Dorchester, directing me to send a Person to protest in the manner which His Lordship has pointed out against any Settlements being made by the People of the States on the Lakes. In Consequence I have immediately dispatched an Officer to execute this Order on the Sodus and other parts on this Lake—and I have transmitted the same to Lieut.-Colonel England for his Execution, if he deems it practicable.

I have the honor to be with the utmost Respect, Sir,

Your most Obedient and most humble Servant,

J. GRAVES SIMCOE.

The Right Honorable Henry Dundas. &c., &c., &c.

Endorsed:—Navy Hall, 10th Augt. 1794. Lt. Govr. Simcoe. R. 13th Decr No. 31. (Three Inclosures).

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO R. H. SHEAFFE.

NAVY HALL, 10th August, 1794.

Sir:

Information having been received that a Mr. Williamson said to be an Agent of an English Company of Land Jobbers, and late a Captain in His Majesty's Twenty-Fifth Regiment of Foot, has made an establishment on the Sodus, you will proceed thither and demand by what authority the establishment is ordered, and require the people of that place to desist from such aggressions. In case of refusal you will be so good as to deliver the protest herewith delivered to the Officer in Command, or principal persons concerned in the establishment, procuring their acknowledgement of the receipt of the same.

You will use your own discretion on consultation with the Officer Commanding at Oswego, whether or not the approach of the people of the States to the Falls be of such a nature as to indicate a Settlement or a Fortress to be erected there, when you will repair thither and act in the same manner as has been directed in regard to the occupants at Sodus. You will also make enquiries into the Settlements supposed to be establishing at Salmon River, Hungry Bay, or that vicinity, where according to your discretion you will leave a similar protest.

In case of a personal interview with Mr. Williamson you will represent to him in my name my express dissatisfaction of his improper conduct that being so lately an Officer in his Majesty's Service, vowing natural allegiance to His Majesty, he should without application to me, send into the Province under my administration, Agents with the pretext of purchasing flour, which transaction from the whole of his conduct apparently must have been intended to deduce from any such permission of purchase, a kind of acknowledgement from the King's Subjects, of claims under discussion and in every point of view inadmissible until the United States shall have completed their conditions of the Treaty of Peace, on which alone they can expect the Posts and dependent Country to be evacuated.

You will be so good as to leave a form of the protest confidentially with Captain Schoedde, (giving him a copy of this letter), to be used by him in case of a future exigency demanding such a measure.

I am, Sir, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE,

Lt.-Governor of Upper Canada.

To Lieutenant Sheaffe,¹ 5th Regiment Foot.

FROM ROBERT PRATT TO E. B. LITTLEHALES.

FORT ERIE, 10th August, 1794.

Sir:

Mr. Johnston,² who is now here, wishes that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor should be informed as follows:

"That the expected answer from General Washington to the Indians is with General Chapin, who is expected with it at Buffalo Creek in three or four days,

¹ Roger Hale Sheaffe, 1763-1851, born in Boston, Mass.; ensign 5th Regt., 1778; lt. 1780; capt, 1795; major general, 1811; baronet, Dec. 1812; administrator of Upper Canada, 20 Oct., 1812-18 June, 1813.

² William Johnston of the Indian Department.

which answer appears favorable to the Indians, (from the information he has received of it), as the troops at Le Boeuf are to be withdrawn."

That O'Beale sent (and the message arrived yesterday) to the Chiefs at Buffalo Creek saying that a Surveyor of the State of Pennsylvania asked his permission to continue the road to Prisqu'il, which the Americans had begun, and to build a small Fort there, which he positively refused, saying that the answer from General Washington was every day expected, and on that depended their future measures. The Surveyor's observations to O'Beale were "that the British had of late gained such an ascendancy over the Six Nations as must soon end in their ruin," to which O'Beale replied "that the Six Nations clearly saw that the measures pursuing by the Americans were more pregnant with ruin to them than any Act of the British towards them."

I am perhaps going too much into particulars, if so I beg you to inform me that I may in future guard against it, but my motive is that it seems to be Mr. Johnston's wish, who desires me to add that it is at this time necessary to make a number of Chiefs, and the Indians request fifty quarts of rum on the occasion at which time they will give Mr. Mayne an Indian name.

I have the honor to be, &c.

ROBERT PRATT,
Captain 5th Regiment.

Major of Brigade Littlehales, Navy Hall.

FROM ALEXANDER McKEE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

RAPIDS, 10th August, 1794.

Sir:

The unexpected retreat of the Indians from the Glaize to this neighbourhood, together with all their women and children, compels me to send this by express to state to you the urgent necessity there is for provisions to be immediately forwarded in one of the King's vessels, without which the Fort will be left to defend itself, and so numerous a body must of necessity support themselves about the settlement of Detroit where provisions are to be got.

I shall endeavour to keep the Indians together until the return of this express, and hope to be enabled by your answer to make arrangements for their co-operation with us to defeat any attempts that may be meditated against Fort Miamis or Detroit, the Country as far as this being now perfectly open for their approach.

I have the honor to be, &c.

A. McKEE.

Lieutenant-Colonel England,
&c., &c.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO ALEXANDER McKEE.

DETROIT, August 10th, 1794, 12 o'clock.

Sir:

Your letter of the 5th reached me yesterday, just in time to send a copy of it by the *Nancy* that was then under way, I was disappointed in your not sending for his satisfaction, the Indian's answer to General Wayne, I directed the *Nancy* to

speaking to every vessel he met coming from Fort Erie, as I am confident that Colonel Simcoe is on his way either to you or to this Post, and I should suppose the former. Mr. Askin Jr. returned yesterday from Saguna. I have directed Mr. McKee to send you the account he brings from thence which goes by this express. If I am to credit Newman's information the whole of the Kentucky Militia amount only to 1900, a Part of which was to remain behind, to convoy provisions and which part I suppose from what he says, and from your information, has lately joined General Wayne at least so far as may be relied on him.

I have sent you such a supply of provisions lately as will prevent your being in want for that article for some considerable time whatever your numbers may be. The *Dunmore* was the last vessel dispatched and is under the direction of Commodore Grant at Turtle Island.

Be so good as to acquaint Lieut. Selby with my compliments, that I forwarded his letter to Capt. Pratt, and now send him a letter lately arrived here. The deserter Griffin is sent to Fort Erie.

I am, Sir, with very great regard,
Your very obedient and very humble servant.

R. G. ENGLAND.

Colonel McKee, &c., &c.

Mr. Francis Baby is this moment arrived with your letter of the 27th.—R.E.

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO JOHN SMITH.

NAVY HALL, August 11th, 1794.

Sir:

I am commanded by His Excellency Colonel Simcoe to acquaint you that he has thought proper to order Lieutenant Sheaffe upon a particular service with Ensign Usher, and one Corporal and Six Privates of the 5th Regiment. It is not necessary that the men should carry their arms with them, but you will be pleased to give directions that one hundred rations of provisions are issued to this party.

I have the honor to be, &c.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Major Smith, Niagara.

EXAMINATION OF A SHAWNEE PRISONER BY CAPTAIN WELLS ON THE EVENING OF THE 11th AUGUST, 1794, NEAR THE FOOT OF THE RAPIDS.

Q. Where did the Indians receive information of the advance of the army?

Ans. The first information was from a white man, who came of his own accord about ten days since.

Q. Where are the Indians at this time?

Ans. At Colonel McKee's.

Q. Where are the British and what are their numbers?

Ans. In a Fort about one mile below Col. McKee's, on the north side of the river, situated on a hill or bank, close by the margin where there are about 200 men—they are now at work at the fort.

Q. What number of great guns have they in the Fort?

A. Four or five.

Q. What number of warriors are at McKee's, and what nations do they belong to?

A. There are six hundred who abandoned this position at the approach of the army.

Shawanese about 200, but not more.

Delawares 300

Miamis 100

Warriors of other
tribes 100

700 total.

Q. What number are expected to assemble in addition to those now at the foot of the Rapids?

A. In all about 500 men, viz.

Wyandots 300

Tawas 240

540.

Q. What number of white men are to join and when?

A. Mr. or Captain Elliot set out for Detroit six days since and was to be back as yesterday with all the militia and an additional number of regular troops, which, with those already there, would amount to 1000 men—this is the general conversation among the Indians and Captain Elliot promised to bring that number. Col. McKee's son went with Elliot, as also the man who deserted from the army on its march.

Q. When and where do the Indians mean to fight this army?

A. At the foot of the Rapids, the white man who came in told the Indians and Col. McKee that the army was destined for that place.

(Printed in the Gazette of the United States of Philadelphia, 2d October, 1794.)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

August 12th, 1794.

Sir:

I must beg that you will in the most particular manner express to Captain Doyle the very high sense that I entertain of his zeal for the King's Service, and I in an especial manner regard his ideas of attempting to strike at Wayne's rear by the rout of Vincennes as a proof of Military talent, which I hope some time or other may be called into action.

I beg that he will be so good as to enter into the detail of his project, the means of execution, the assistance of troops he will require, and the presents and expence necessary for the Indians.

It appears highly necessary for him to preserve his ascendancy with the Indians. If in concurrence with Colonel McKee he could employ a proper person to counteract the American emissaries at Chicago, a stipend may be allowed for such a purpose.

I beg Captain Doyle may communicate to Mr. Langlade how agreeable and

satisfactory his offers of service have been, and will you be so good as to enquire whether that gentleman has any sons, and whether it might not be possible for him to raise an independent Company in that quarter.

Endorsed:—D't to Colonel England. 12th August, /94. E.B.L.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

No. 32.

NAVY HALL, August 13th, 1794.

Sir:

Since the closure of my dispatch of the 10th Inst., Information of the most serious Aspect has been received from the Indian Country.

General Chapin, the Agent for the United States to the Six Nations, has sent to meet those People immediately at Buffaloe Creek; & his Messenger intimates that Mr. Washington has Complied with their demands so far as to give directions that Presque Isle shall not be occupied & the Fort at Le Boeuf shall be abandoned.

Lt. Col. England informs me that Wayne is rapidly advancing, by report with four thousand Troops; but what is alarming, The Hurons have peremptorily returned him the Hatchet which they had formerly received from Governor Hamilton demanding him to sharpen it, & instantly to join them, or they must cease to defend their Country.

The next Step in all probability would be to offend ours.

The Report in Wayne's Army is that He has positive Orders to reduce our Post at the Miamis, & in the ensuing Spring to attack Detroit.

I have detached Capt. Bunbury of the 5th Regiment to occupy Turtle Island					
C.	S.	S.	D.	R.	& F.
1	1	2	1	40	5th Regt. at the Entrance of the Miamis Bay, hoping
	1	1		20	Q. Rangers. by a Combination of our Gunboats & Vessels
at that place to prevent an access to the Miamis River or Egress from it.					

1 2 3 1 60. If Mr. Wayne pushes for Detroit, you Sir, must of course be prepared to hear that It is in his Possession. I have Characterized it truly to Lord Dorchester, on his Arrival, "as a nominal Fortress with a nominal Garrison."

I have the honor to be with all Respect,
Your most Obedient & most humble Servant,

J. G. SIMCOE.

To the Right Honorable Henry Dundas, &c., &c.

Endorsed:—Navy Hall, 13th Augt. 1794. Lt. Govr. Simcoe. R. 13th Decr. No. 32.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, Aug. 13th, 1794.

My Lord:

I do myself the honor of enclosing to Your Lordship letters and communications from Lieut. Col. England, which I received on the 12th of this month.

I also transmit the extract of a letter I have received from Captn Schoedde.

The detention of the Vessel also at this juncture will have delayed the information which I received from Mr Johnson in respect to the Six Nations.

Your Lordship will therefore be apprised of the critical situation of this Province. I have thought proper to order Captn. Bunbury to proceed with a detachment to occupy Turtle Island on the Miamis Bay, and have directed it to be fortified, that with Gun Boats and Shipping, I may as effectually as possible shut up all access to that Bay or egress from it. I have directed the detachment of the Queen's Rangers, now at the Miamis, together with Lieut. Givins and his recruiting party, so soon as that Post shall be finished, to be placed under Captain Bunbury's orders. I have intimated that the Garrison at the Miamis was proportioned to the Fortress as I directed it to be built, and adequate to other circumstances, and as I have directed Lieut. Col. England to detain Lieut. Pilkington, I hope Your Lordship will have the goodness to send Lieut. Bryce or some other Officer of that Corps to this Post.

At the same time Captain Bunbury moves, I have ordered twenty men of the Queen's Rangers and the four six pounders which arrived from Kingston, (agreeably to Your Lordship's orders) to be forwarded to Fort Erie.

I have done this in some respects that the rumor of preparation might be spread abroad, and that the Indians who are assembling at Buffaloe Creek might have something to talk of, that might counteract the very important effects which may be produced upon their minds by the approach of Wayne, and the Wyandots returning the hatchet.

I have thought it proper to transmit Your Lordship's Protest and the extract from the letter which related to it for Lt. Col. England's execution of it or not, according to his discretion and its practicability.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, Aug. 13th, 1794.

My Lord:

I enclose for Your Lordship's consideration, the memorial of two Gentlemen, who I apprehend were very useful Officers in the late War, in the Stations in which they served, and who are respectable inhabitants of this Province.

I beg to offer to Your Lordship, the Surgeon's mate of the Queen's Rangers, Mr. Robert Richardson,¹ to be the surgeon of one of the Battalions to be raised. He is a very attentive and sober man, and has married into one of the most respectable families of this Province.

The Clergyman of this District, Mr. Robert Addison,² is almost wholly unprovided for: I therefore offer him as Chaplain, or to officiate in that capacity in the new Regiment.

It is with some anxiety that I expect Your Lordship's orders to direct some of

¹ Surgeon's mate of the Queen's Rangers, 1792-98; assistant surgeon, 1798; Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, Western District, 1807-29; garrison surgeon at Amherstburg and surgeon to the provincial marine on Lake Erie, 1812-3; taken prisoner in action, Sept. 10, 1813. He married in 1793, Madeleine, daughter of John Askin.

² Missionary at Niagara and minister of St. Mark's Church, 1792-1829; brigade chaplain, Centre Division, 1812-3; taken prisoner of war, May, 1813, at Niagara.

the Gentlemen whom you shall be pleased to appoint to begin immediately the recruiting for the Regiment to be raised, as I consider it to be much more advantageous for the King's Service that the Inhabitants of the Provinces of Canada should enlist in Regiments raised from among themselves and directed for their protection, than that ultimately the Population of the Country should be weakened by the Recruits which should be obtained from entering into Regiments liable to be removed, as the general Interests of His Majesty's Dominions might require. I enclose to Your Lordship a letter just received from Mr. Johnson.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO E. B. LITTLEHALES.

DETROIT, August 13th, 1794.

Sir:

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th inst. relative to Monsieur Le Dru, the French Priest, and beg you will be pleased to inform His Excellency, Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe, that he shall be sent to Michilimackinac by the first opportunity that offers, and that his instructions relative to him shall be attended to. His Excellency is no doubt informed that I had previous to receiving his letter, ordered him from hence immediately on his arrival from Mackinac.

I am Sir, &c.,

R. G. ENGLAND.

Major Littlehales.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO JOSEPH BUNBURY.

NAVY HALL, August 13th, 1794.

Sir:

The present situation requiring that Turtle Island at the entrance of Miamis Bay should be occupied in a certain degree, you will embark at Fort Erie without loss of time, and immediately repair to that place, giving immediate information of your arrival to Lt.-Colonel England, Commanding in the District of Detroit, and placing yourself under his orders.

The object of your being detached is to fortify the Island in concurrence with the Engineer, Lt. Pilkington, in such a manner that with Gun Boats and the King's Vessels, it may as effectually as possible block up the bay of the Miamis River as far as can be expected from such a combination of force.

You will therefore on consultation with the Engineer, make regulations for cannon of such calibre as to your judgment shall appear most proper under the general idea, or under such circumstances as shall offer themselves to you from the existing state of the Country.

It may be possible that the good of the King's Service shall require this Post to be occupied during the winter season. You will be pleased to advert to this case, and together with the Engineer construct such works as may effectually protect the Post from any attempts that may be made upon it during the winter season by the Enemy passing over the ice.

The instant that the fortress at the Miamis shall be finished Lt. Col. England will order the detachment of the Queen's Rangers to be placed under your command, and Lt. Givings will be ordered in case of apparent hostility to join your Post, unless Lt. Col. England shall find him useful to him in any other capacity, in which case he will order one Officer of the Garrison of Detroit in his place. A non-commissioned officer and six Artillery men will be ordered to join your Detachment from Detroit.

Lt. Col. England will consider the Gun Boats employed on the transport between Detroit and Miamis as attached to your Post, & will supply you with such other boats as on your requisition may be thought expedient.

I need not, to an Officer of your experience and character, state the critical circumstances under which it has been necessary to detach you from this Post. Your habits of acquaintance with the Indians and the knowledge you have of many of their Chieftains prevent me also from any necessity of particularly requesting your attention to encourage them to persevere in their regard for the King, their Father, and to assist them on every occasion in your power. The friendship that exists between you and Colonel McKee will, I doubt not, be of great public benefit, and I beg that you will from time to time communicate to me whatever you may consider as proper for the King's Service.

To Captain Bunbury.

FROM ALEXANDER MCKEE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

RAPIDS, August 13th, 1794.

Sir:

I was honored last night with your letter of the 11th and am extremely glad to find that you are making such exertions to supply the Indians with Provisions. Captain Elliott arrived yesterday. What he has brought will greatly relieve us, having been obliged all day yesterday to take all the corn and flour which the traders had here.

A scouting party of Americans carried off a man and a woman yesterday morning between this place and Roche de Bout and afterwards attacked a small party of Delawares in their Camp, but were repulsed with the loss of a man whom they either hid or threw into the River. They killed a Delaware woman.

Scouts are now sent up to view the situation of the Army and we now muster 1000 Indians. All those Lake Indians from Saguna downwards should not lose one moment in joining their brethren as every accession of strength is an addition to their spirits.

I have the honor to be, &c.

A. MCKEE.

Colonel England, &c., &c.

FROM ANTHONY WAYNE TO THE WESTERN INDIANS.

13th August, 1794.

To the Delawares, Shawanoes, Miamis & Wyandots & to each & every of them, & to all other Nations of Indians North West of the Ohio whom it may concern:

I Anthony Wayne, Major General & Commander-in-Chief of the Federal

Army now at Grand Glaize, & Commissioner Plenipotentiary of the United States of America for settling the terms upon which a permanent & lasting peace shall be made between each & every of the hostile tribes or nations of indians (North West of the Ohio) & the said United States.

Actuated by the purest principles of humanity & urged by pity for the errors into which bad & designing men have led you; from the head of my Army, now in possession of your abandoned villages & settlements, do hereby, once more, extend the friendly hand of peace toward you, & invite each & every of the hostile Tribes of Indians to appoint Deputies to meet me & my Army without delay between this place & Roche de bout, in order to settle the preliminaries of a lasting peace which may eventually & soon restore to you the Delawares, Shawanoes, Miamis & all other Tribes & Nations lately settled at this place & on the margins of the Miami & au Glaize River to your late grounds & possessions; and to preserve you & your distressed & helpless women & children from danger & famine during the present Fall and ensuing Winter.

The Arm of the U.S. is strong & powerful but they love mercy & kindness more than war & desolation.

And to remove any doubt or apprehension of danger to the persons of the Deputies whom you may appoint to meet this Army; I hereby pledge my Sacred honor for their Safety & return & a Shawanoe warrior whom I took prisoner two days ago, as a Flag, who will advance in their front to meet me. Mr. Miller was taken prisoner by a party of my warriors Six Moons since & can testify to you the kindness I have shewn to your people my Prisoners, that is five warriors & two women who are now all safe & well at Greenville.

But should this invitation be disregarded & my Flag Mr. Miller be detained or injured, I will immediately order all those prisoners to be put to death without distinction & some of them are known to belong to the first families of your Nations.

Brothers be no longer deceived or led astray by the false promises and language of the bad White Men at the foot of the Rapids, they have neither the power nor inclination to protect you. No longer shut your eyes to your true interest & happiness, nor your ears to this last overture of Peace; but in pity to your innocent women & children come, & prevent the further effusion of your blood, but then experience the kindness & friendship of the U.S. of America & the invaluable Blessing of Peace and tranquillity.

Given at Head Quarters, Grand Glaize this 13th day of August, 1794.

ANTHONY WAYNE.

Endorsed:—Genl. Wayne's speech to the Inds., 13th Aug. 94, & Miller's affidavit, &c., &c.

FROM ANTHONY WAYNE TO CHRISTOPHER MILLER.

HEAD QUARTERS, GRAND GLAIZE, 13th August, 1794.

Mr. Miller:

You are to proceed to Roche de Bout, or to the general rendez-vous of the indians in that vicinity, & deliver & explain to them or their chiefs, the speech now delivered to you, in the character of a *Flag* from the United States of America & from the Army on its march to the foot of the Rapids.

The lives of eight indian prisoners now in my possession will depend upon your

personal safety on this occasion; and upon your appearance with this army on or before the sixteenth instant.

(Signed) ANTHY WAYNE.

(A true copy.)

AFFIDAVIT OF CHRISTOPHER MILLER.

I, Christopher Miller, sent to this place as a Flag from General Wayne Commander-in-Chief of the American Army, to the hostile indians do make oath & swear that the said General desired me to inform the indians, if they would withdraw themselves, or come and make peace with him, his designs were not to be directed against them, but to drive away the English from the Country.

(Signed) CHRISTOPHER MILLER.

Sworn before me at the Miami Rapids this 14th day of August, 1794.

(Signed) M. ELLIOTT, J.P.

(A true copy.)

Endorsed:—Oath of Chris. Miller, 14th Aug. 1794.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, August 14, 6 o'clock P.M.

Sir:

I this moment received a letter by express from Colonel McKee, a copy of which I enclose herewith to Your Excellency. The *Beaver* sailed when I closed my dispatch at two o'clock and I now send after her to the River's Mouth, consequently have not time to say more than by Major Campbell's letter to me, He arrived at Fort Miamis on Sunday, that he had mounted all the Guns he had, that he sent to Turtle Island for the nine pounders which had been previously sent from the Fort, and that he expected to be in three days in such a state of defence as to bid defiance to General Wayne's whole Army. Lieutenant Adye was so ill as to induce him to appoint Lieutenant Governor to assist Lieutenant Pilkington and some of the Canadians I had dispatched had arrived, and the rest hourly expected. He mentioned the death of some more men and his heavy sick list but says that their spirits are so high that he cannot prevail on many of them to consent to come away. The very bad cases, women and children, all sick are dispatched under the care of Surgeon Wright and Mr. Harvey remains to attend to the rest. You shall again hear from me when anything serious requires an express by land.

I have the honor to be, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe, &c., &c.

FROM ALEXANDER McKEE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

RAPIDS, 14th August, 1794.

Sir:

The enclosed speech from General Wayne with Miller's instructions came here this morning. I overheard him telling the Indians that the designs of the Army were against the English and when I spoke to him about it in public he readily agreed to take the enclosed oath in the presence of the several Nations. As soon as I am informed of the determination of the Indians upon this message I shall lose no time in acquainting you of it.

I have the honor to be, &c.

A. McKEE.

Colonel England, &c., &c.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, Aug. 14th, 1794.

Sir:

I had the honor at six o'clock on the 8th Inst. to forward to your Excellency by Express by land a letter which I had that moment received from Colonel McKee, accompanied with the information of William Griffin, a Deserter from the Army of the United States, under the Command of General Wayne. I then informed your Excellency that I proposed to send fifty men of the 24th Regiment under the Command of Major Campbell to reinforce Fort Miamis, and early the next morning I embarked two strong Companies, with eight men of the Royal Artillery, the Recruiting party and Recruits belonging to the Queen's Rangers under the Command of Lieutenant Givins, who all sailed immediately in the Chippawa. With this reinforcement, I sent two small Howitzers mounted on grasshopper carriages, with a fresh supply of ammunition, and one hundred barrels of provisions, which I conceived would be requisite for the Indians, though a large boat attached to Colonel McKee's Department had sailed two days before with provisions, and another large boat, also attached to his Department, was loading and then preparing to sail.

At six o'clock on the morning of the 10th Inst. I received a letter from Colonel McKee, a copy of which I herewith enclose Your Excellency, in consequence of which I immediately hired two small schooners belonging to the Merchants here (none of the King's vessels being then here) and sent them also to Turtle Island, laden with two hundred and fifty barrels of provisions, inclusive of a large supply of Indian Corn.

Finding by Captain Stiell's report to me that he had ordered all the Troops into the Fort, though the buildings for their reception were not in any degree of forwardness, nor the casemates prepared for his provisions and ammunition, and knowing from my late visit that the work was incomplete, and the wood in the front and flanks of it necessary to be burnt away, I procured with the exertions and influence of the Honorable Mr. Baby, one hundred volunteer Canadians without Arms to go and work there for fifteen days, on promising them payment. They sailed from hence two days ago under the direction of Mr. Francis Baby, and at the same time fifty volunteers from the new settlement on Lake Erie, with Arms and ammunition, under the Command of Lieutenant-Colonel Caldwell, sailed to reinforce the Fort if necessary, or to be employed as Major Campbell may direct,

who has orders to be particularly attentive to them, and not to permit them to commit anything hostile against the Army of the United States except he find it absolutely necessary; and knowing from his discretion and prudence that he will not be the aggressor, I had no difficulty in entrusting those men to his care. With this assistance to the work I hope it will in a short time be in a respectable state of defence.

The letter I enclose from Colonel McKee is the last I received but I am in hourly expectation of hearing from Major Campbell, who, from the winds that prevailed after he sailed, must have had a quick passage. From my not hearing from him I conjecture General Wayne has not advanced further than the Glaize, where no doubt he will build a redoubt.

Commodore Grant in the *Chippawa*, well armed, with the Seamen and Artificers and the Gun Boats under his direction, is stationed off Turtle Island to protect and forward to the Fort, stores and provisions as may be necessary. Runners with painted tobacco are sent from the Indians assembled at the foot of the Rapids to all the neighbouring Tribes to come to their assistance, and I understand that they intend to endeavour to stop the progress of General Wayne's Army.

I am concerned to mention that by Captain Stiell's last report he lost by death some of his detachment, and that forty-six of the 24th Regiment were that day in the Surgeon's report, exclusive of some of the Royal Artillery, and the Military and other Artificers under the Command of Lieutenant Pilkington. Major Campbell had directions previous to his leaving to send here immediately all such cases as in his opinion and the opinion of the Surgeon did not promise to be shortly of use to him. It was with a view to stop this prevailing disease that I directed a little Rum to be mixed with the water for the men when I was at Fort Miamis, which the Surgeon not only strongly recommended but said it was absolutely requisite and necessary. However favorable this attempt may have proved it was by no means intended to have continued it, knowing it was not authorized by His Excellency the Commander in Chief, which I request you will be pleased to inform His Excellency in your next letter; but in this time of general exertion I conceived a trial so strongly recommended by the Surgeon should be made to preserve the health of the Troops, which in my mind is at all times the first object to attend to.

I now write by the Beaver, a private vessel, which is in a hurry to sail, and did not till this morning acquaint me with her intentions. I send in her the Deserter, William Griffin, mentioned in this letter. I detain Mr. Newman, the Militia Quarter Master, for the Dunmore, one of the King's vessels, which I propose to send by the way of Turtle Island as soon as possible. She only this morning arrived, is not yet unloaded, and the Officer who commands her reports that she makes so much water that she will require careening before she is fit for service.

Your Excellency is already acquainted with the very reduced state of this Garrison, and will best judge if any reinforcement to it is requisite, or if you can spare any. I remain here ready to move if I find it necessary from Major Campbell's next letter, though I must confess that I should feel unwilling to leave the King's provisions, stores and vessels that resort here without some protection. The few Troops that are here are constantly employed in the repairs necessary for Fort Lernoult, particularly in removing the old sally-port that has fallen in and occasioned a breach in the work.

All means in my power are tried (though perhaps not perfectly legal) to prevent Rum being sent to the Indian Country. I have prohibited it by proclamation and beat of drum.

You may be assured of hearing from me by Express on the first news I hear.

Mr. Baby¹ is anxious to know if the approach of the Army of the United States to Fort Miamis is to be considered as an invasion so as to justify him to call out the Militia. We are much at a loss for the last Militia Bill.

I have the honor to be, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

FROM JAMES BABY TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, August 14th, 1794.

His Excellency Governor Simcoe:

The critical position of affairs at this period in our neighborhood makes me very anxious to hear from Your Excellency in what manner I should proceed. We know the American Army to have been for some days past on this side of the Glaize. A messenger arrived here four days ago from Colonel McKee's Station, who brought intelligence they were to be that night or the day following at the Rapids. There is, however, reason to believe the report to be groundless, as we did not hear from that place for these four days.

Finding as yet no aggression, I fear I would not be found justifiable were I to call out the Militia to take them partly or bodily to Fort Miami; should the army upon the other hand come to the Rapids or to the Fort, it might become difficult or too late to give any assistance to our people.

I have asked Colonel England's advice upon the subject, but I find him at a loss as well as myself. I will take care to get his approbation in anything I may have to do in my public capacity.

Being entirely at a stand, when we heard the enemy approaching very fast, I have tried to take a medium, by sending something more than one hundred young men as artificers, who are joined by fifty more under Captain Caldwell; in case of an attack they would be found in readiness for the defence of the place. It has also this good effect, that the people here expect to be called out; part of them are already warned to be in readiness. I flatter myself they will give no reason to Your Excellency to be displeased.

According to Your Excellency's direction, I have mentioned to Mr. Antoine Lasselle what had been written against him and to be more upon his guard for the future; he was a great deal surprised and denied everything; he has tried to come at the knowledge of his accusers in order to clear up his character, but he has been denied their names. To give some proof of his zeal he has gone, as well as his nephew Jacques Lasselle, to the Miami Fort with seven or eight of their men to be employed at the works. He expects this little circumstance will be noticed with a favorable eye by Your Excellency, and the more so, as he has put off a very long journey on that account.

I shall expect Your Excellency's instructions with great impatience, as I am left in a great dilemma.

Mr. Reynolds² having declined the acceptance of the office of Register for this District, for want of time, as he told me, and knowledge of the French language,

¹ Hon. Jacques Baby, Lieutenant of the county of Kent.

² Thomas Reynolds, Deputy Commissary at Detroit.

I would beg leave, should there not be too much presumption, to mention Mr. Thomas Duggan as a fit person for that office, provided not already granted.

I have the honor to be, &c.,
J. BABY.

P.S.—An Express arrived this very moment from the Rapids. The number of Indians already gathered again will make up for their late rash conduct, it is to be hoped. I am as confident as ever they will conquer their enemy.

Knowing that Colonel England gives Your Excellency the particulars I will not intrude any further upon Your Excellency's time.

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO JOHN MCGILL.

NAVY HALL, Aug. 14th, 1794.

Sir:

His Excellency Colonel Simcoe has received both of your letters of the 6th Inst. Directions are to be given for the forwarding the chain and small grapnell from the store at Kingston to York. You will order the Carpenter belonging to the Onondago to build a petty Auger for Lake Erie, either at Chippewa, York, or Niagara, which ever place will be the cheapest and best for this service.

I am, &c.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

En. & Adj. McGill, York.

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO JOHN BARNES.

NAVY HALL, Augst. 14th, 1794.

Sir:

The multiplicity of public business which His Excellency Colonel Simcoe is at present engaged in, prevents his acknowledging the receipt of your letter, but he desires me to inform you that the want of seamen on the Lakes will render it absolutely necessary that some of His Majesty's Vessels should immediately be laid up, especially upon Lake Erie, which at this period will be attended with serious inconvenience to the King's Service.

I have the honor to be, &c.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Major Barnes, Quebec.

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO JOHN SMITH.

NAVY HALL, August 15th, 1794.

Sir:

You will please to order a detachment of the 5th Regiment under the command of Captain Bunbury, consisting of one subaltern, two sergeants, one Drummer and forty Privates, to proceed immediately to Fort Erie, and afterwards to the Westward—Captain Bunbury will receive his instructions from His Excellency, Colonel Simcoe.

I have the honor to be &c.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Major Smith, Niagara.

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO ROBERT PRATT.

NAVY HALL, August 16th, 1794.

Sir:

Your letters of the 14th and 16th insts., relative to the sailing of the *Ottawa*, are now before me, and I had the honor of communicating their contents to His Excellency Colonel Simcoe, who approves of the steps you have taken to forward the detachment under the command of Captn. Bunbury by the *Saguina* or by the first King's Vessel that shall arrive at Fort Erie, tho' I am induced to believe that it was His Excellency's intention that the *Ottawa* should have been ordered to call at Detroit with the Attorney-General &c., &c.: nevertheless, it is unfortunate that she departed previous to the arrival of Captain Bunbury.

The party of the Queen's Rangers that have been lately ordered to your Post, are to practice continually with the artillery and field pieces, of which you will be pleased to give directions.

I am, Sir, &c.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Capt. Pratt, Fort Erie.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO DAVID SHANK.

August 15th.

Dear Sir:

You will proceed without delay to Niagara Fort with every man and officer you can muster, leaving Quarter Master and your convalescents or disabled men to take care of the Barracks, Stores and Baggage. At Niagara I shall review the Corps. If Bouchette's vessel and Mr. Commissary McGill be not sailed, be so good as to embark the carronades on board of her. The other vessels will immediately return to York. You may bring your tents with you, Tomahawks and hatchets and your Schenectady Boats or Batteaux. It is probable that you will proceed in them round Lake Erie.

If Mr. Graham¹ would engage a few officers he may accompany you. If not, he may remain and proceed with his work.

Endorsed:—To Captain Shank, August 15, '94.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, August 15th, 1794.

Sir:

I have the honor to forward herewith a copy of a letter I this moment received from Colonel McKee accompanied with several enclosures of all of which I send copies.

I send this Dispatch to the Mouth of the River, in expectation of there overtaking the *Beaver* which sailed from here last night with my dispatches of yesterday's

¹ Probably William Graham, formerly a Captain in the Duke of Cumberland's Provincial Regiment, Captain in the York Militia, 1798; Lieut-Col. commanding 1st Regiment of York Militia, 1812-14.

date, and which may be detained by adverse winds still at the Mouth of this River.

I also send duplicates of the several enclosures by express by land, conceiving it highly necessary that Your Excellency should be apprised of the information with all possible expedition.

I have the honor to be, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency, Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO ALEXANDER McKEE.

DETROIT, August 15th, 1794, 10 o'Clock A.M.

Sir:

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th by express yesterday evening, and in time to forward it to His Excellency Lieut. Governor Simcoe by the *Beaver Sloop* that was then at the River Rouge, on her way to Fort Erie, immediately on receipt of your former letter I hired Mr. May's schooner the *Swan*, and sent her to you loaded with provisions, which I was obliged to send in *Batteaux* to her as far as Judge Powell's Farm, I also hired Mr. Askin's small schooner the *Weazle*, and loaded her with provisions, and indian corn, and dispatched her early in the morning of the 13th inst. From the winds that have since blown, I am apprehensive her passage will be tedious therefore propose to send the *Dunmore* with another cargo, the moment she is unloaded, as she has on board several stores for this Post. This will be done in the course of this day, and she shall sail immediately.

I trust that the provisions sent in the small schooners, and those I have sent in the *Chippawa* will answer all purposes till the *Dunmore* reaches you, Major Campbell will no doubt on your application give you any Part that is requisite from the *Chippawa*.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your very obedient and very humble servant,

R. G. ENGLAND.

Colonel McKee, &c., &c.

Mr. McDougall goes off this moment to the River aux Raisins to send you some hundred bushells of indian-corn either to the Foot of the Rapids, or to Turtle Island, should he deliver them to you, give him a receipt for the number, if he delivers them at Turtle Island Commodore Grant is requested to give him a receipt, and to forward them immediately to you.—R.E.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO ALEXANDER McKEE.

DETROIT, August 15th, 10 o'Clock A.M.

Sir:

Your Letter of yesterday which reached me by Express early this Morning with the several Inclosures appears to me of such serious Consequence that I propose sending Copies of them immediately by Land to His Excellency Lieut. Governor Simcoe, and also Copies to the Mouth of the River, with hopes of Overtaking the *Beaver* that sailed from the River Rouge late last night with my Dispatches as I before mentioned to you in my Letter of this Date.

I am still of Opinion that General Waynes Instructions do not authorize him to attack the British Posts notwithstanding his Gasconade to *Miller*, which he no doubt conceived would have much Effect on the Indians and Newman the Acting Quarter Master of Militia informed me on his Arrival here, that a Colonel O'Hara, who he calls Qur. Masr. General mentioned to him that General Wayne was to erect a Fort at the Foot of the Rapids in case he succeeded against the Indians, and remain there; This at best is but very vague Information, and of course leaves room for much Conjecture—In our present situation much depends on the Unanimity of the Indians and the Decision of their Council. By your Report their number is formidable and able if well inclined to Arrest the Progress of General Wayne's Army. As I before mentioned every Exertion on my part shall be made to Supply you with Provisions and the Dunmore shall sail this Evening or early tomorrow Morning.

I am of course very anxious to hear the Result of the Council you mentioned was sitting and shall immediately send it by Express to the Lieut. Governor.

I am, &c.,

R. G. ENGLAND.

Colonel McKee.

FROM WILLIAM CAMPBELL TO ALEXANDER McKEE.

Dear Sir:

There is just now a party of 20 Canadians arrived from Detroit for Work, but have neither brought axes or camps. Capt. Stiell informs me that you have a number of camps, and will probably have the goodness to spare us a proportion, I therefore send the bearer to request you will send by him what number you can spare.

I am, Dear Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant.

WM. CAMPBELL.

Fort Miami, 13th August, 1794.

To Col. McKee.

FROM GUILLAUME LA MOTHE TO JOSEPH CHEW.

MICHILIMACKINAC, 15 Aug., 1794.

Sir:

I had the honor of receiving yours of the 27 June and have observed your remarks relative to our Indians and the full Equipments which was giving them but nevertheless I am happy to think that you are so well acquainted with Indians that they always require some thing on arriving at this Post which must be the case, it gives me a great deal of pleasure to hear of your favoring us with a Visit this Season & then you certainly can Judge best Yourself.

Some days before the arrival of the *Felicity* in course of conversation the Capt. told me that he was blamed by Colonel England for raising the Indians in the manner he did and fearfull you should find fault with me I take this Oppertunity of acquainting you that for my part, I did nothing more nor less than I was ordered

for which Lieut. Foster can certify who went with me and since that I am informed that some of the Inhabitants and Traders of this place has framed a Petition for another Interpreter. I do not know whether it is sent to Head Quarters or not perhaps saying this misunderstanding was owing to my Mallinterpreting or otherwise—wishing to get the former in as he is a poor man and they can I believe make him do what they please particularly in regard of giving (“their commissioners or otherwise the Indians they give goods too, to trade for them”) presents from the Indians store which I have Stopped as much as I could as they are no ways Serviceable to King and Country in that Employ.

Sir, Your, &c.,

G. LA MOTHE.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO JACQUES BABY.

DETROIT, August 16th, 1794.

Sir:

As it is expedient for His Majesty's Service that the Militia of this Country should be in readiness to March at the shortest notice, You will be pleased to give such orders to the Militia of the County of Kent as will insure their being prepared without loss of time to march either in the whole or by detachment as may be considered most necessary.

I have the honor to be, &c.

RICHARD ENGLAND.

Senior Colonel of Militia.

The Honorable Jacques Baby, Lieutenant of County of Kent.

N.B.—A similar letter sent to the Senior Officer of the Essex Militia.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO LOUVIGNY DE MONTIGNY.

DETROIT, August 16th, 1794.

Sir:

As it appears requisite for the protection of the British Fort, lately built on the River Miamis that it should be reinforced as expeditiously as possible and as the settlement on the River aux Raisins from its vicinity to the Fort, can most conveniently furnish an immediate supply of Men with Arms, I am to request you without loss of time to go there and procure such number of the Militia with proper officers as the settlement can afford, and then proceed to the Fort where you will receive the orders of Major Campbell, 24th Regiment, now commanding there.

If you should discover that the Army of the United States, propose to march to this part of the Country you will be pleased to return immediately from Fort Miamis to the River aux Raisins and direct an Inventory to be taken of the wheat and Indian Corn in store there, belonging to the Inhabitants and if possible have it removed here. If by your exertions this cannot be accomplished, direct it to be destroyed and also direct that all the cattle belonging to the settlement should be driven here where they will be purchased at a fair price for the use of the Garrison.

The Honorable Mr. Baby, Lieutenant of the County of Kent, will furnish you

with such orders to the Senior Officer of Militia on the River aux Raisins as are necessary to procure the detachment from thence.

Relying on your influence in the settlement, and your zeal for His Majesty's Service, I beg to recommend these instructions to you in the execution of which you will be guided by discretion, and request that you will not lose any time in the performance of that part of them, that at present appears absolutely necessary.

I am, Sir, &c.,

RICHARD ENGLAND,
Lt. Col. Commanding

Louvigny Montigny, Esq., &c., &c.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, Aug. 16th, 1794.

My Lord:

I am to acknowledge the receipt of Your Lordship's despatch, (No. 14, July 11th, 1794), which arrived here by the Vessel which brought the Bishop of Quebec on the 9th of August.

I shall lose no time in sending Lieut. Sheaffe of the 5th Regiment and another Officer to the Sodus to make the Protest against that Establishment, and also, if he finds it expedient, to Oswego Falls and Hungry Bay.

By some papers which have lately fallen into my hands, I find that Mons. Des Jardins is the Agent of a French Company, now or lately residing at Paris.

I should not again have requested Your Lordship's opinions and direction on the state of affairs in this Country, had not the occupation of the Post, Your Lordship's Speech to the Indian Deputies from the several Nations, and the manner in which the Secretary for the United States commented on these transactions naturally altered the condition of affairs in this Country from what they were at the period when Your Lordship did me the Honor of sending your Letter No. 1.

At present I hope the people of the States will not occupy Presqu'Isle nor build Naval Armaments, but should they and by such attempt either to victual Wayne's Army or to occupy a Post at Buffaloe Creek or its vicinity, if it be practicable, I shall do my best for the destruction of such an Armament, under my interpretation of Your Lordship's general orders "to repel force by force." I should not like to receive from Your Lordship an express direction to the contrary and find that I am mistaken in my Idea of Your Lordship's *orders and actions*.

"In respect to Your Lordship's wish to be acquainted with the extent of the combined Powers in Upper Canada, and what force I may be able to assemble for my own preservation and defence; also how far I may have it in my power not only to repel, but to retaliate any hostile attempts" I beg leave to observe that I have endeavoured from time to time to communicate to Your Lordship every view in which I contemplate the Military Advantages of this Province, its means of defence or power of offence, upon the Principle that at such a distance as I am from Your Lordship, I must of necessity be left to a greater latitude of action and with more discretion, than I can by any manner of means personally desire, or execute in my Station with much satisfaction. I therefore by the first communication, not only of Intelligence, which is my public duty, but of my comments, a duty I owe to myself and to Your Lordship, in this very peculiar and unpleasant situation, have endeavoured to lay before Your Lordship such materials as may enable you

to form an opinion on the powers of this Country with a certain degree of accuracy, and to give me orders for the execution of the King's Service.

Several of these communications and opinions have been transmitted to Your Lordship since the date of the despatch which is now before me.

The number of the Troops, the miserable state of the Fortresses, the want of Military Stores and Magazines and a proper Naval Arsenal I need not explain.

The Militia, unless exercised and in part called out, cannot be reckoned upon as an efficient strength. There is an universal appearance of loyalty among the British Inhabitants, but it does not become me to place any military reliance on such assistance unless it shall actually be proved; nor would it be wise to make this probation, but under the assemblage of a competent body of Troops.

The most provident attention must be paid that the first movement made by the King's Forces should be attended with success, whether to repel the Enemy, to retaliate any hostile attempts, or if any other considerations render it practicable, not only as a general Military Rule, but as peculiarly applicable to the local situation of their Country, to prevent any inroads into the Province.

In the combined Powers, I presume that Your Lordship includes the Indian Nations, altho' I am to observe that you have never expressed these people by name as a means of defence, in your communications to me.

The most important Possession in this Country is Niagara, considered with its most important Dependencies of York and Lake Erie, Long Point, Presqu'Isle. This Post I consider as the main Object of attack, and it must be secured by preventing all access to Lake Erie: this must be done by stopping the progress of Wayne's Army, now actually on its road to the Miamis River, and by preventing any occupation on the Coast of the Lake from Buffaloe Creek to the Miamis Bay.

The Troops of the States must at the least be driven from Fort Recovery leading to the Miamis and Fort Franklin on the Alleghany.

If their advance can be prevented or suspended, I conceive that no time should be lost in the collection of every species of force that can be spared from both Provinces, and that the Three River Point and its communication with Oswego should be occupied, Fort Brewerton, the Onondago Salt Works, and the whole Genesee settlement destroyed.

The approaches by the Oneida Lake, and even Wood Creek ruined, and the Seneca, Cayuga, and other Lesser Lakes occupied with Gun Boats, &c., and the roads to the Susquehanna ruined or possessed, the incursions of the Indians or light Troops, should the Province be reinforced, may be pushed forward on all sides and with safety to the great Object, the covering by the Three River Point or Oswego, the Post at Niagara, and all access for the present to be by the Upper St. Lawrence.

This, My Lord, is the outline of what I think absolutely necessary, and possibly not impracticable: such an enterprise may be combined with great security.

I stated to the Duke of Richmond the necessity of heavy cannon and a light train before I left Europe.

I also stated other military particulars, and shall be most happy if the non-compliance with them be not fatal to the King's Interests.

But, My Lord, in the present juncture, if we are only to repel hostilities which will consist in the Enemies occupying favorable positions with Blockhouses, and it be, as I conceive, most necessary that we should not fail in our first enterprise, from which the whole War may derive its coloring—it will be of the utmost consequence to our operations that the Artillery should be of that weight and nature

as to ensure the capture of the Blockhouses, now erecting at Fort Brewerton, Three Rivers, &c.

It is manifest that we shall be able to transport them with a certain degree of facility, and it may be possible that we might destroy, or occupy, if it be an Object, Fort Schuyler or Stanwix, tho' I should rather prefer this place to become in the first campaign a point of assembly for the Enemy—we filling up Wood Creek.

The next requisite, My Lord, for this expedition is its Officers. In this Province, the Captains Shank, Smith and Shaw of the Queen's Rangers, Captn. Seward of the Artillery and Captn. Bunbury of the 5th, are probably second to no men in their respective ranks and situations.

An able Field Officer is without doubt necessary to command, either, as my second or in Chief, if, as probably may be the case, the King's Interests should require my presence elsewhere.

Should Your Lordship under existing circumstances spare Lt. Col. Beckwith for such attempts, my satisfaction would be complete. I know him to be perfectly calculated for this kind of Service, and that he possesses the good opinion of the Officers of the Queen's Rangers, who in the late War, were personally acquainted with him. I have also the highest opinion of the spirit of resource and experience of Captain Gleason of the Artillery, for an enterprise that requires so much combination.

On the supposition that such an attempt should be entirely successful and that he should preserve posts of communication completely fortified with stockades of trees, &c., &c., (as were practiced by the Loyalists, &c., on Bergen Point in the late War), and reclaim Three River Point, Oswego and the Great Sodus, our naval station for Gun Boats &c., during the Winter, it is probable that the levies of Troops in the Provinces &c., from the United States, would be successfully carried on, and should, by any circumstances, Lower Canada be secure, and Yr. Lordship by a competent reinforcement from Europe, and the accumulation of these Levies, secretly raised and despatched in silence, be enabled to move early in the ensuing Spring into this Province, the Power of retaliating attempts might be of infinite extent, by acting on the Mohawk, the Susquehanna or Ohio.

The United States would hazard all their Colonies or Settlements beyond the Mountains, and perhaps ultimately, by a successful co-operation on the sea-coast, be effectually dismembered and disabled from prosecuting those malignant and malicious views which self-defence must of necessity in some period or other compel Great Britain to consider as the main Object of her Policy.

I have thus offered to Your Lordship a summary of my Ideas on the Subject of this Country, and its present Power, not only to repel, but to retaliate any hostile attempts—I need not represent to Your Lordship's experience that it is almost impracticable to form any kind of satisfactory system in War, but it is peculiarly so where the Powers to be combined are a scanty and divided Army, indefensible Fortresses, unprovided Arsenals, an untried Militia and Indian Allies. In such difficulties all that a zealous Servant of the King has to offer is the exertion of his best Abilities.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM R. H. SHEAFFE TO CHARLES WILLIAMSON.

SODUS, 16th August, 1794.

Sir:

Having a special Commission for that purpose from the Lieutenant-Governor of His Britannic Majesty's Province of Upper Canada, I have come here to demand by what authority an establishment has been ordered at this place, and to require that such a design be immediately relinquished, for the reasons stated in the written declaration accompanying this letter, and for the receipt of which Protest I have taken the acknowledgement of your Agent, Mr. Little.

I regret exceedingly in my private as well as public character that I have not the satisfaction of seeing you here, but I hope, on my return, which will be about a week hence, to be more fortunate.

I am, Sir, &c.,

R. H. SHEAFFE, Lieut. 5th Regt.

Q.M.G. Dept. in His Britannic Majesty's Service.

Captain Williamson, Bath.

FROM ROBERT HAMILTON TO J. G. SIMCOE.

To His Excellency John Graves Simcoe, Esquire, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Upper Canada, &c., &c., &c.

May it please Your Excellency.

His Majesty's loyal and faithful Subjects of the Home District of Upper Canada, tho' at present they do not know a single disaffected person, possessed of property among them, Yet anxious to maintain and preserve the blessings they enjoy from their connection with Great Britain, and their participation of her happy Constitution, Do wish to associate for the purpose of supporting the Laws, of discountenancing all seditious or incendiary opinions, and of defending at the risk of their Lives and Fortunes, their present Government against all foreign or domestic Enemies and they do most humbly entreat Your Excellency to sanction and countenance these their Loyal Intentions in this Association.

R. HAMILTON,

Chairman of the Association.

Newark, August 16, 1794.

Endorsed:—Mr. Hamilton, Chairman of the Loyal Association to His Excellency, The Lieutenant Governor. August 16, 1794.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO ALEXANDER McKEE.

NIAGARA, August 17th, 1794.

Sir:

I have just received your letter of the 4th of August by an Express overland, which at the same time brought me your letter of the 7th of August to Lieutenant Colonel England, with the information that a part of General Wayne's Army had arrived at the Glaize.

Captain Bunbury will be the bearer of this letter. He will also communicate

with you on all such measures as may be necessary in this critical situation. I consider the possession of Turtle Island of great importance.

It is with confidence that I rely on you in this exigency to keep up the resolution of the Indians. It is obvious that if Wayne attacks the Miamis Post that a War commences between Great Britain and the United States, in which case his distance from all supplies will, I hope, ultimately occasion the destruction of his Army. In case he remains at the Glaize, (I believe he will proceed), on our side of the Line, the Indians will meet with protection and provisions.

Brant is here and is anxious for our instantly collecting to attack (with the Indians) Wayne's Army. I hope we may be assured that the Pennsylvanians will not occupy Presque Isle.

Endorsed:—D't to Colonel McKee. 17th August, 1794.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

August 17th, 3 P.M.

Sir:

I am to Acknowledge your letter of the 8th of August and its important enclosures.

I am glad, as at present it is neither proper for you nor myself to go to the Miamis, that you have detached Major Campbell to that Post.

Captain Bunbury on my receipt of your letter of the 5th Inst., was immediately detached to occupy the Post on *Turtle Island* with such Instructions as he will communicate to you when he shall place himself under your command. Upon your letter which I have just received I have ordered a further reinforcement of

C. S. Ser. Dr. R. & F.
1 1 2 1 40.

the Queen's Rangers to be added to his command. This detachment, together with the soldiers of the Queen's Rangers whom I have formerly sent to the Miamis Post with Lieutenant Pilkington, I consider with the Shipping and Gun Boats as necessary to be stationed at Turtle Island to prevent all egress from the Miamis River or access to it.

I hope that every means will be made use of to preserve the confidence of the Indians, and that proper measures will be taken to explain to them that the nature

Cannon

2.

2

Six

Pounders.

S. R. & F.

1 20

of Mr. Wayne's irruption must probably be ruinous to himself, that if he attacks the King's Posts, his Subjects will rise up as one man against him, that they will be amply supported if they choose to retire on our side of the water, and there can be little doubt that their Great Father over the water, when he hears of this inroad which the Virginians have made, on account of his attachment to the Indians, will exert his utmost power to drive the Enemy back and restore to them their just inheritance.

I sketch this as the general style of argument which I doubt not but your zeal and ability will improve to the public advantage.

I particularly recommended small Gun Boats to your attention. The Commandant's Boat, your builder assured me, would be able to carry two Six Pounders with facility.

It must be obvious that by your Shipping the Transport Vessels, unless in case of emergency, should Lord Dorchester order any movement of Troops, it would not be practicable to execute.

Be so good as to send down Lt. Giving's Recruits.

Endorsed:—D't to Colonel England, 17th August, 1794.

FROM ALEXANDER McKEE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

RAPIDS, 17th August, 1794.

Sir:

Agreeably to my promise of yesterday I have now to inform you that the Indians have this day returned an answer to General Wayne's speech. It is entirely calculated to gain a few days time in hopes that the Poutewatomis and Indians about Detroit may increase their strength so as to enable them to meet him with a prospect of advantage. It is said that he is reinforced by another 1000 of the Kentucky Militia, who have orders to bring up more Artillery.

I have the honor to be, &c.,
A. McKEE.

To Colonel England.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, Aug 17th, 10 o'clock A.M.

Sir:

This dispatch, which I now have the honor to forward to your Excellency, was sent on the 15th inst. to the Mouth of this River, with hopes of overtaking the *Beaver*, which unluckily sailed from thence a few hours before my Express arrived there. I now send it by the *Nancy* and I have directed the master of her to speak to any vessel that he meets on the Lake, supposing your Excellency may be on board of her. I have also sent copies of this dispatch now forwarded by an express by land.

I send under the care of the master of the *Nancy*, Mr. Newman, the Acting Quarter-master of the Kentucky Militia, who deserted from them, as has been reported to your Excellency, you will find him a smart sensible young man, and acquainted with the opinions of the people he quitted, but you must give him time to answer and not hurry him. He this morning informed me that he is confident the Kentucky Militia does not in the whole amount to more than fifteen hundred, and that a part of that number was left behind. I now send this man that you may have an opportunity of speaking to him and obtaining information from him. Mr. Mills, the master of the *Nancy*, may be relied on, and I have intrusted him to his care, and also an American pack horseman taken in the unlucky affair near Fort Recovery, all the information Newman has hitherto given proves correct. I endeavoured to make a friend of him and gave him a suit of clothes and proper provisions. He wrote me several letters, some of which I forward to you, to explain the kind of man he is. The number of Indians collected at the Foot of the Rapids amount by my letter of the 5th inst., to thirteen hundred warriors and more were met on their way there by my Express.

The Garrison and Colonel McKee are plentifully supplied with provisions, a great number, above sixty, is sent in here sick, and every vessel that arrives brings in some. I endeavoured to replace them as well as our few numbers will allow me. I have not here more than twenty men fit for duty, and those are employed day and night on duty and fatigue.

I have ordered the Militia Commanders to have their Regiments ready to move at the shortest notice, whether in the whole or by detachments as may be considered expedient. Col. Caldwell is at Fort Miamis, with sixty or seventy fighting men with arms. Mr. Francis Baby is there with one hundred Canadians

to work, and I have sent Mr. Montigny to the River aux Raisins, to procure a detachment from that settlement with arms to go to the Fort, and also with instructions to send away from the River aux Raisins all the corn collected there and all the cattle, and in case the corn cannot be moved to destroy it, provided that he finds General Wayne proposes to move that way, this is to be delayed until the last moment that the Inhabitants may not be distressed. I beg leave to suggest to your Excellency the propriety of ordering an additional quantity of provisions for this Post, particularly corn and flour, in case it should be found necessary to feed the Indians for any length of time. I send an account of what we now have here, but I know there is a large quantity at Turtle Island, on board the Chippawa and Dunmore, exclusive of rations at the Fort for fifty days for three hundred and fifty men.

I have, &c.,

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency Lieut.-Gov. Simcoe.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

Sir:

In consequence of an Act of the Legislature of the Province of Upper Canada in their second Session for the better regulating of the Militia of this Province and of the Thirteenth Clause of that Act, I am empowered to call out the Militia of the Province of Upper Canada to serve in conjunction with His Majesty's Forces, under the guidance or superintendence of such Officers as I shall appoint.

I hereby require and direct that you immediately consult with the Lieutenants or Deputy Lieutenants of the Counties of Essex and Kent, and if it be necessary in any case, call out the whole of the Militia of those Counties respectively, or if it be more conducive to the public Service that they, as Lieutenants of the Counties aforesaid by their own authority, call out such detachments as may be necessary, agreeably to the Fourteenth Section of the above treated Act, to serve under your general guidance and command.

I also enclose the Act as amended in the said Session which ascertains the Nature and Extent of the Services on which the Militia may be employed.

N.B. If you can procure some able bodied men from the Militia to serve in the Garrison of Fort Lernoult with the Artillery, they may be assured not of Infantry but of Gunner's Pay.

Endorsed:—To Colonel England, 17th August, 1794.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO ROBERT PRATT.

NAVY HALL, 17th August.

Sir:

In case the *Saguina* has not sailed you will be pleased to order the detachment of the Queen's Rangers under the orders of Captain Bunbury, together with the two men of the Royal Artillery, two six pounders and their ammunition, and lose no time in getting the vessel to sail for Turtle Island.

To Captain Pratt (at Fort Erie.)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO JOSEPH BUNBURY.

Sir:

I have ordered Captain Pratt to place the Sergeant and twenty men of the Queen's Rangers, now at Fort Erie under your Command, together with the two men of the Artillery, and the two Six pounders, ammunition, &c.

You will be so good as to consider these men as part of your Detachment for the defence of Turtle Island. I apprehend you will find the Chippawa and the Gun Boats at that place. Lieutenant Givings will be ordered to join you. Major Campbell being at the Fort Miamis, of course you will receive such orders as he thinks proper to give, after acquainting him with my general Instructions.

Endorsed:—To Captain Bunbury, August 17th, 1794.

FROM JOHN ASKIN TO ALEXANDER McKEE.

DETROIT, August the 17th, 1794.

Sir:

I yesterday received Lt.-Colonel England's orders directed to me as Senior Officer at present in the County of Essex to put the whole of the Militia of that County in a state to be ready to march at the shortest notice. In consequence of which I have wrote Capt. Fields¹ at river à La Tranche, to examine & see what Arms & accoutrements may be wanted for to complete the Militia on this side of that river & to come immediately for them. I have ordered the like to be done at the Petite Cote & I shall also send to the New settlement, tho that may not be so necessary as I suppose Lt.-Colonel Caldwell has taken with him from that Quarter all those who were in a situation to march.

At 11 o'Clock to day I will examine the arms & accoutrements of the four companies opposite the town. You will no doubt Sir, see that is a necessity for having more officers appointed. I beg leave to mark out that there is a Joseph Beaubien of a good family & a man who is desirous of taking any Commission from you, he in my opinion would make a good Lieut. or Ensign as you may judge fit. There is also a Pierre La Bute who I understand would likewise make a good officer, these two belong to my company; Mr. Dufresne who was an officer in Lower Canada would be of great help to Major Parent who cannot read or write, there is likewise in same company a Francois Pratt who perhaps would answer well as an Ensign. Capt. Smith² having a Flank Company will want two Lieuts.

Capt. Baby's Company who lies between Major Parent's & mine has neither Lt. or Ensign, I understand there is a J. Bapt. Tourneau called Jaurette that would make a good officer, on the river à La Tranche, Alexis La Bute & perhaps Geo. Jacobs³ would answer as officers, please permit me to say that I do not by any means urge that those gentlemen I recommend should get commissions, I let you know only for your information my opinion of them which I have chiefly from report & I believe the whole if known would readily accept a commission, none of them having been officers before in this District. I beg leave to mention John Martin, you know his Character, as he refused a Lieutenancy on this side, he is unprovided

¹ Daniel Fields.

² Thomas Smith.

³ Afterwards captain of a flank company of the 1st Regiment of Kent Militia in the war of 1812.

for. I learn that down below no Field Officers have Companies, if that is the case, there is reason for those new Capts., provided you think proper to adopt that mode. Besides I have what I did not know before that Mr. Clinch at Niagara is both a Capt. & Adjutant.

I have the honor of being with the utmost respect, Sir,
Your most obedient & very humble servant,

JOHN ASKIN.

The Honorable Alexander McKee, Esq., Lieutenant for the County of Essex,
at Foot of the Rapids.

FROM JOHN ASKIN TO ALEXANDER MCKEE.

DETROIT, August 17th, 1794.

Sir:

Since I did myself the honor to write you this morning I have been over the river reviewing the men, arms, &c., &c. I find there is very few wanting, the people seem well disposed & ready to march when ordered but the companies are much weaker than I expected, owing to several engages I suppose, being gone away lately. Between Maisonville's & the Huron Church there is not quite 60 men & from your house to Drulliard's Mill there is no more than eleven which was meant for Capt. Smith's Company, but as Capt. Allan who joins him in the Southern Battalion has by his return to me this day 41 men, I beg you will be pleased to change the boundaries between the Northern & Southern Battalion so that Mr. Smith may get more men; for none can be spared, they not being now equal to what the Law directs. Capt. Monforton's below Capt. Allen's is strong enough he has 29 men. In addition to those whom I mentioned this morning as thinking they might answer for officers (if you have no other in view) there is a Vital Dumouchel who Capt. Baby wishes much to have for his Lieutenant & I must again repeat that Joseph Beaubien's conduct to day gives me every reason to think that he is a very good subject & well qualified to be an officer. The Militia on this side were called out when I was over & I learn that Capt. Meldrum, Lieut. Duggan, Lieut. Shephard and the officers of the Company I formerly had & that Capt. Park, Lieut. Frazer & Ensign Roe *the Lawyer* have the other Town Company. I did not learn who is to be Major, I beg leave to say I fear for poor Martin.

I have the honor of being with much respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient, very humble servant.

JOHN ASKIN.

The Honorable Alexander McKee, Lieutenant for the County of Essex, at the
Foot of the Rapids.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

August 18th, 1794.

Sir:

I was favored with your letter of the 8th of August and its enclosure. I have written in detail to go by the first vessel that shall arrive, understanding that the *Saguina* has sailed. On this account I write by your messenger simply to say that I will join you as soon as possible, with all the force I can muster.

If there be no Shipping sufficient for the purpose, a part at least of the embarkation must proceed by the Lake. You may hire merchant vessels for the transport if you judge it expedient.

There is a report here which is credited that the Emperor has totally defeated the Regicidal Army.

Your faithful servant

J. G. SIMCOE.

Lieutenant Colonel England, Commanding at Detroit.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, August 18th, 1794.

My Lord:

I do myself the honor of enclosing to Your Lordship the communications which I received late last night from Lt.-Colonel England and Col. McKee.

I shall lose no time in proceeding to Detroit with all the force I can muster leaving the Garrison of Niagara with its usual complement of Infantry, and ordering the Artillery then at Kingston to supply in part those whom I shall think necessary to carry with me to Detroit.

The whole detail of this arrangement will be transmitted to Your Lordship so soon as it shall be decided upon.

I cannot flatter myself with much hopes of repelling Mr. Wayne, and feel that my character as a Military Officer must suffer in the extreme, but an honorable devotion to the public service bears me up above all personal considerations, and it is possible that my character as Civil Lieut. Governor may enable me to promote His Majesty's Interests.

The People of the States, as predicted, have heavy Artillery at Le Boeuf¹ —The Six Nations, I believe, remain steadfast in their opposition to the Establishment at Presqu'Isle.

Should Your Lordship be reinforced, and at this crisis, augment the force in this Province, so as to enable me to meet Mr. Wayne on equal terms, and His Majesty's Troops in such an event be successful, I cannot but foresee the perfect safety of the Canadas as the result of such a measure, as in all probability, if he be permitted to establish himself at the Detroit, it may eventually occasion their loss.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

J. G. SIMCOE.

Rt. Honble. Lord Dorchester.

¹ Now Waterford, Pa.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO ALEXANDER McKEE.

DETROIT, August 18th, 1794, 12 o'clock.

Sir:

Your letter of the 15th reached me Yesterday Just in Time to send a Copy of it by the Nancy that was then under way. I was disappointed in your not sending for his satisfaction the Indians Answer to General Wayne. I directed the Nancy to speak to every Vessel he met coming from Fort Erie as I am confident that Colonel Simcoe is on his way either to You or to this Post and I should suppose the former. Mr. Askin Junr returned Yesterday from Saguna. I have directed Mr. McKee to send You the Account he brings from thence which goes by this Express. If I am to credit Newman's Information The whole of the Kentucke Militia Amount Only to 1500—a Part of which was to remain behind to convoy Provisions and which part I suppose from what he says, and from Your Information, has lately Joined General Wayne at least so far as may be relied on him.

I have sent You Such a Supply of Provisions lately as will prevent Your being in want for that Article for some considerable time whatever Your numbers may be. The Dunmore was the last Vessel dispatched and is under the Direction of Commodore Grant at Turtle Island.

Be so good as to acquaint Lieut. Selby with my compliments that I forwarded his Letter to Capt. Pratt and now send him a Letter lately arrived. The Deserter Griffin is sent to Fort Erie.

I am, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

Colonel McKee.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

No. 1.

August 19th, 1794.

Sir:

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 6th of August and its enclosures, by the Saguna on the 12th, the Express over land not having arrived.

As far as I can judge Newman must have been sent in for some sinister purpose. I am very sorry to find that the Garrison at Fort Miamis continues sickly. I trust that you will make every exertion to have the Fort completed, which from Lt. Pilkington's accounts I had reason to hope would long ere this have been the case.

I beg that you will keep Lt. Pilkington with you until further orders, and that the Works at the Miamis and Turtle Island shall be finished. I had also directed a small Block-house to be built at the entrance of the River au Raisins, of which I have heard no mention.

I much desire that the detachment of the Queen's Rangers, as soon as they can possibly be spared as Artificers from the Miamis, may be placed under Capt. Bunbury's Command and form part of his Garrison.

In my Instructions of the 18th of April, 1794, I limited the detachment at the Fort to a certain number of Troops and Cannon proportioned to the Ground of the Post to be occupied, and if the Engineer has followed the directions he then received, that Force must be adequate to what under existing circumstances could be afforded for its defence. At any rate, if in your judgment more men and cannon

shall be necessary, they must be sent from Detroit. Herewith you will receive a copy of Capt. Bunbury's Instructions, which I must beg you as far as the Service permits, to comply with. I also enclose an extract of a letter which I have lately received from Lord Dorchester, together with a Protest with which you will comply or not as existing circumstances shall render practicable or expedient.

I think your answer to the Huron Chiefs in all respects to have been wisely and prudently delivered. I have transmitted it to the Commander in Chief. I fear from French intrigue that there is little hopes of peace, and in that case I cannot but suppose that this Country will be reinforced and not left to its fate.

I must again recommend to you to consider your moving water force of the greatest consequence, and if possible to procure the seamen to re-enter. It is necessary for you to purchase all the Indian corn that you can procure, as the Indians must be amply supplied with provisions in case of hostilities, and all the corn in this District will scarcely be sufficient for the consumption of the Six Nations, though it shall if possible be reserved for the Felicity when she shall arrive at the Grand River.

If circumstances shall permit I shall withdraw Capt. Bunbury and his detachment of the Fifth and Queen's Rangers in October.

Lieutenant Colonel England.

Enclosure 2.

FROM CAPTAIN WILLIAMSON¹ TO MR. SECRETARY RANDOLPH.

BATH, August 19, 1794.

I have the honour to transmit to you, by express, a protest in writing delivered by a British officer to a young man that manages my business at the settlement

¹Charles Williamson, born in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, about 1750. He entered the army and attained the rank of captain in the 25th Regiment of Foot. While on his way to America during the war of the revolution, he was taken by a French privateer, and held a prisoner in Massachusetts until the peace. He married there but returned to England. After retiring from the army he became the agent for an association of English capitalists formed for the purchase of land in the United States. He emigrated to the United States and became naturalized to facilitate his operations. During the winter of 1791-2 he was in Pennsylvania and sought the acquaintance of George Hammond. On 11 April, 1792, he obtained a deed from Robert Morris of 1,200,000 acres of land in central New York, as trustee for the association composed of Sir William Pulteney, John Hornby, and Patrick Colquhoun, the latter being an occasional correspondent of Lord Grenville on American affairs. Pulteney seems to have furnished nine-twelfths, Hornby, two-twelfths, and Colquhoun, one-twelfth of the capital supplied. Williamson acted with great energy. He opened a wagon road from Williamsport, Pa., to Canaseraga creek on the Genesee, a distance of one hundred and fifty miles, built a saw-mill and many houses for a German colony; improved the navigation of several streams and exported lumber as far south as Baltimore. His first settlement was significantly named Williamsburg. In 1793 he founded the village of Bath, so called in honor of a daughter of Sir William Pulteney, who had become Countess of Bath by marriage. A year later he began settlements at Geneva, Lyons, and Sodus, the latter of which he named Pulteneyville. He was elected a member of the Legislative Assembly of the State, and afterwards appointed judge of the county court and commanding officer of the militia of the county of Steuben. In 1800 he conveyed the tract purchased by him to Pulteney and his associates, under a recent act enabling aliens to hold lands, and his agency terminated soon after. He returned to Scotland and died in 1807 of yellow fever while on a mission to Havana. He has been credited with the authorship of a rare pamphlet entitled "Description of the Settlements of the Genesee Country in the State of New York, in a Series of Letters from a Gentleman to his Friend." First Edition, (4to, Albany, 1798.) Second Edition (New York, 1799.) A reprint of the second edition appeared in the "Documentary History of the State of New York," Vol. 2, p. 655. The first edition contained but five letters; the second, eight.

of Great Sodus. You will find the protest is against that settlement, and all the settlements in that country.

The officer who delivered the protest was attended by a subaltern, and a guard of eight or ten men.

I shall, on meeting Mr. Sheaf, endeavour to draw from him the intended consequences of inattention to these orders of Britannic Majesty.

As it is believed that large supplies of military stores have been lately forwarded to Oswego, I think it not improbable but the intention may be taking possession of this place.

As to my own part I feel too sensibly to pay any attention whatever to orders from any foreign Power; and will, of course, proceed with my improvements (which are merely clearing land and building houses) until I am driven off by a superior force.

Extract.

(Historical Manuscripts Commission, Dropmore Papers, Vol. III, pp. 329-30.)

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO JOHN SMITH.

NAVY HALL, August 20th, 1794.

Sir:

I am directed by His Excellency Colonel Simcoe to desire you will order a detachment of sixty rank and file with a proportionable number of non-commissioned Officers of the 5th Regiment, under the Command of Captain Pratt to proceed to the Westward.

I have the honor to be, &c.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Major Smith.

FROM E. B. LITTLEHALES TO JOHN SMITH.

NAVY HALL, August 21, 1794.

Sir:

You will be pleased to order the Catherine to proceed to Queenstown Landing as soon as possible, with any ordnance stores as Captn. Seward, Commanding the Royal Artillery, shall direct to be transported there.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Major Smith, Niagara.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO JOHN ASKIN.

DETROIT, August 20th, 1794.

Sir:

You will be pleased to send orders immediately to the distant districts of the County of Essex, directing the Militia of those districts to assemble here forthwith. And you will also be pleased to direct the Militia Companies in the neighbourhood

of this Garrison to assemble to-morrow evening at four o'clock on the King's Common, there to receive such orders as the exigencies of the King's Service may require.

In executing this order you will use your discretion in leaving such men in the different districts as may be considered necessary for the protection of the cattle and property belonging to those men that are ordered to march.

You will be pleased to send me a return as soon as possible of the number of arms required to complete the Militia under your Command, and you will direct all those men ordered to assemble here to bring with them what arms they can muster.

I have the honor to be, &c.

RICHARD ENGLAND.

Senior Colonel of Militia.

Lieutenant Colonel Askin.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO JACQUES BABY.

DETROIT, August 20th, 1794.

Sir:

You will be pleased to send orders immediately to the distant districts of the County of Kent, directing the Militia belonging to those districts to assemble here forthwith; and you will also be pleased to direct that the Militia Companies of the neighbourhood of the district to assemble here on the King's Common to-morrow evening at four o'clock with all the arms they can muster to receive such orders as the exigencies of the Service may require.

In execution of this order you will be guided by your discretion in leaving such men in the different districts and Settlements as you may consider absolutely necessary for the protection of the cattle and property of those men who are ordered to march.

You will be pleased to order the Companies of the Town Militia to be in readiness this evening to mount guard and take till further orders, a proportion of the duty of the Garrison.

You will be pleased to send me as soon as possible a return of the number of arms required to complete the Militia under your Command.

I have the honor to be, &c.

RICHARD ENGLAND,

Senior Colonel of Militia.

The Hon. Colonel Baby, Lieutenant County Kent, &c.

FROM WILLIAM CAMPBELL TO R. G. ENGLAND.

FORT MIAMIS, August 20th, 1794.

My Dear Colonel,

I did myself the pleasure to write to you this morning about seven o'clock by Mr. Montigny. Since when we have passed a very odd kind of a day. Within less than an hour after he set off a very brisk fire commenced a little higher up than opposite to Colonel McKee's, and increased until near 11 o'clock, when we found

a number of Indians coming down upon us in the open, but by far the greatest number of them had been noticed under cover of the wood at some distance in our Front. This fire had for some time no other effect upon our working parties than to frighten our Canadians and it was with a good deal of difficulty we could prevail on them not to run away, but as they said to take to their Arms. However, at last it became so serious that I thought it high time to stand to our Arms, fill up all gaps in our Abatis and shut out all communication from the Fort, by fixing our Chevaux de Frise, &c., &c., not knowing at what moment we might be attacked. The fact was—the Americans and Indians had come to action and the latter were defeated. Some of the Nations fought well but were outgeneralled. The Wyandots, they say, have lost the most, but the loss of men altogether is not great on the part of the Indians. Poor Agushway is shot through the head but not killed. The Little Otter was killed and several other Chiefs. The Americans, they say, have lost a number. Accounts, you may believe, vary. Some make it out as high as 400 but this I do not credit—be that as it may, they seem to have completely gained their point. We see them now feeding their horses upon Colonel McKee's Island, and on this side showing themselves in small bodies very near to us, beating their drums and sounding their horns. Colonel McKee, who has been constantly with the Indians for several days past, called on me as he passed down, and acknowledged they were outgeneralled. The Indians are now totally gone away and I believe towards the Mouth of the River, though he said they were still in spirits and determined to give them another brush. It has been a great relief to my mind that the Battle did not happen so near to this Fort, so as to commit me. You may imagine that we shall not sleep very soundly to-night. At the same time, I trust we have very few in the Fort who do not feel at their ease, but our situation will not long admit of silence between General Wayne and me. I delay on my part, any communication so long as there is a probability of the Indians again attacking him; but if I find that not likely to happen and that he shows himself in any force near to us and if he does not speak, I shall feel it my duty to do so. You will perceive by this that I still do not expect him to storm our Works. At the same time I shall act in every respect in the safety of the Post as if I did. The only thing I am in difficulty about is to say how far safe it would be for you to send us a reinforcement. If I was to hazard an opinion, I would think it safe and it will give all here great pleasure to see them. As I send this to Colonel McKee to be forwarded to you I hope he may be better able to give you information on this head. In case of any alteration of circumstances, I shall never lose sight of it.

I expect this will find Colonel McKee near Point Au Chene—Would to God the Governor himself were here. Whatever happens I shall do for the best. No one can do more. You shall soon hear from me again. Meantime allow me to subscribe myself.

Ever most faithfully and truly,

WM. CAMPBELL.

P.S.—Lt. Selbie arrived about three o'clock with your dispatch of the 18th by which I was extremely happy to find all well at Detroit. Captain Harrow and his six sailors are still here. To-morrow morning will probably decide me whether to keep him or not. When we manned our work this morning at Reveille beating, we mustered 160 Rank and File of the 24th, Queen's Rangers, and Artillery, (I beg the Artillery's pardon), exclusive of Canadians and artificers. We have Captain [torn] and about 24 Canadians.

EXTRACT OF A GENERAL ORDER DATED HEAD QUARTERS, CAMP
IN FRONT OF THE FIELD OF BATTLE, 21ST AUGUST, 1794.

A Court of Enquiry to consist of five members will sit immediately to enquire and determine whether Antoine Lassell comes under the character of a spy, having been discovered secreted and painted within the lines two hours after the defeat of the Savages in the action of yesterday.

Colonel Hamtramck, President, Lt. Wade, Judge Advocate, *pro tem*.

This is to certify that it was proved before the Court of Enquiry of the 21st of August of which I was President "to enquire and determine whether Antoine Lassell came under the character of a spy," that the said Lassell was actually taken in arms and made resistance when he was taken.

J. F. HAMTRAMCK,
Lt. Col. Com. Sublegion.

Camp Miamis Villages, Oct. 15th, 1794.

Copied as a true statement of facts by me.

JOHN WADE.

Judge Advocate, P.T.

STATEMENT OF JAMES JOHNSON.

Evidence of James Johnson, a Deserter from the American Army, aged 38 years, deserted on the night of the 20th inst., says he was formerly a soldier in the Queen's Rangers during the American War, and that General Wayne's Army at present consists of about 1600 or 1700 Militia, whose time of service will be out the 10th Oct. next, and about the same number of State Troops, that it was a conversation among the men that they were coming against this Fort, but it was merely a matter of conversation without any certainty, as they were of different opinions.

The Army for the last six days has been upon half allowance of provisions, but with plenty of Indian corn, that they have a great quantity of cattle, and he understood that they had sixty days' flour when they left Fort Greenville. They have built four blockhouses at the Glaize, where they have left a hundred men, but they built nothing between that and this place, except a breastwork which they threw up every night for their defence. In the action of yesterday the left column only was engaged, it was begun by the Militia, but part of the State Troops were also brought into it, that he himself was with the left column, he cannot say what their loss was but he supposes a hundred must have fallen.

He had heard much talk about Newman's desertion, and that one Cooper was in confinement at the Glaize on supposition that he was privy to it, and that Newman was in the Quartermaster's employ.

The Militia were beginning to be sickly, the Army in general were pretty healthy, and they had tents for all the Regulars, but none for the Militia.

He describes a Canadian that was taken prisoner yesterday so particularly that it must be Antoine Lasselle, as he is missing, and further says that the same Canadian had given information that there were only nine hundred Indians and

forty white men in the engagement yesterday, and about two hundred soldiers in this Fort, said Johnson says that the Americans have exactly twenty Howitzers with the Army.

Fort Miamis, 21st Aug., 1794.

WM. CAMPBELL,
Major 24th Reg.

FROM WILLIAM CAMPBELL TO R. G. ENGLAND.

FORT MIAMIS, 21st August, 1794.

Sir:

I sent last night a dispatch to you, to be forwarded by Colonel McKee wherever he should be found, somewhere lower down this River.—In it I detailed the transactions of the day—the chief purport of which was to inform you, that the Americans and Indians had had an engagement, and the latter were beat, and had retired below this Post, how far I do not know—

From the circumstance of an American Army having taken Post on the heights opposite to Colonel McKee's, Almost within reach of the Guns of this Fort, and remained there upwards of twenty-four hours, without any explanation on their part, I conceived it a duty I owed to my station, and indispensibly necessary in support of the honor of the British Colours to desire to be informed upon what terms they Approached so near to this Post. I refer you to my letter to Him, now enclosed, (and which I hope you will not think unguarded) together with his Answer. I sent my Flag by Captain Spears at Eleven o'Clock this Morning. Captain Spears was stopped at their out Post, and was desired to return immediately, as the Woods were full of Riffle Men, and they were Affraid of his Safety, from Accident. But that an Answer should be sent presently. It arrived at Four O'Clock. It appears to me, a vain production and still leaves me a cautious part to Act—At the same time, if Any of his Troops wantonly Insults this Post, it shall not be with impunity.

I sincerely hope the Governor himself may soon arrive, and take all responsibility upon him.

I trust a Reinforcement from you is not far off at present, I conceive there is no danger in coming up the River, how long it may be so, is impossible for me to say. At the particular request of Mr. Pilkington and Mr. Adye, I keep Captain Harrow and his Sailors—I had determined otherwise just now, knowing that you may have great occasion for him, but their entreaties have prevailed.

We have not seen or heard a word about a Savage all day—It has been a matter of great comfort to me, that the Battle of Yesterday terminated without bringing me into a scrape, but surely my situation is a very extraordinary one, hundreds of the American Cavalry are constantly skirting the Wood all around us, and at this Moment, A number of their Officers are looking at us from the Point of Colonel McKee's Island. You have also enclosed the Information of a Deserter who came in last Night. You will observe he mentions Lascell as being taken Prisoner, but here, we all think he Deserted.

Drumer Bevan deserted from us this morning about Eight O'Clock, He went

down to the River to wash his shirts and crept through the Abatis by the Water Side.

I have the Honor to be, Sir, &c., &c.,

WM. CAMPBELL.

Lieut. Col. England, &c., &c., &c.

A Copy.

Rd. England.

J. G. S.

Endorsed:—Copy of a Letter from Major Wm. Campbell to Lieut.-Colonel England.

Dated Augt. 21st	} 1794
Received Augt. 23rd	

In Lt.-Gov. Simcoe's No. 34 30th Augt. 1794.

FROM WILLIAM CAMPBELL TO ALEXANDER McKEE.

Dear Sir:

Since you left us yesterday, we have been here all peace and quietness.

Having witnessed from this Fort, an American Army posting themselves on the heights opposite your house, for upwards of twenty four hours without any explanation on their part, I considered it a duty incumbent on me to address myself to Genl. Wayne on the subject, and this morning about 11 o'Clock, I sent out an officer with a Flag of Truce, and a short letter to say, that from so near an approach to this Post of an American Army, it became my duty to inform myself as soon as possible, in what light I was to view their making such near approaches to this garrison.

The answer did not arrive until near 4 o'Clock and I think was more of the gasconade than the gentleman, and leaving me still embarrass'd how to act. I mention'd that I knew no war to exist between Great Britain and America. In answer to which he says:—"The most full and satisfactory one, was announced to you, from the muzzles of my small arms, yesterday noon. In the action against the hoard of Savages in the vicinity of your Post, which terminated gloriously to the American Arms. But had it continued until the Indians, &c., were drove under the influence of the Post and guns you mention, they would not have much impeded the progress of the Victorious Army under my Command. As no such Post was established at the commencement of the present war between the Indians and the United States."

I would have sent you copies of both letters but you have the substance, and I will only communicate the contents of course, as far as you see prudent.

I have nothing to add but my best wishes, and

I have the honor to be, Dear Sir,

Your very obedient Servant,

WM. CAMPBELL.

Fort Miamis, 21st Aug. 1794. Colonel McKee, &c.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO LOUVIGNY DE MONTIGNY.

DETROIT, August 21st, 1794.

Sir:

Your Express has this moment delivered me your letter. I think it was very necessary for you to have returned from the Miamis Fort to the River Raisin where it may be advisable for you to remain till General Wayne's intentions are known, and if you find that he proposes to march his Army towards that Settlement, drive all the cattle immediately here. In the mean time it may be necessary to have them collected in some place of security, and ready to move at the shortest notice.

I strongly recommend to you to send immediately here all the corn that you can find, and the proprietors shall receive for it the customary and fair price. If you should not be able to send it all, have what you cannot possibly send valued and ready to be destroyed at a short notice.

In executing these instructions you will pay every attention to the interest of Government, and not destroy anything that is to be chargeable to Government but when absolutely necessary.

I consider the corn belonging to Mr. McDougall not to be included in what may be destroyed and paid for, as I have already purchased it from him on his delivering it either here, at Turtle Island or to Colonel McKee at the Foot of the Rapids all which was left to his choice.

I am clearly of opinion that General Wayne will not detach any of his Militia or Cavalry to drive the Country, while the Indians continue in force, all which no doubt you will be well informed of, and should he make any movement you will be pleased to give me the earliest intelligence of it, and the particulars as well as every information that reaches you.

I am, Sir, &c.

RICHARD ENGLAND,
Senior Col. of Militia.

Louvigny Montigny, Esq.¹

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO JAMES BABY.

DETROIT, August 21st, 1794.

Sir:

As it is found expedient to reinforce immediately the crews serving on board His Majesty's different armed Vessels and Gun Boats on Lake Erie, I am to request that you will be pleased to order this evening thirty men from the Militia of the Counties of Essex and Kent, to be draughted as the Militia Act requires. They will be entitled to rations and pay as directed in the Act.

You will have the goodness in the absence of the Lieutenant of the County of Essex, and the Lieutenant-Colonels of that Militia, to arrange with the Senior Officer present the number of men that that County is to furnish for this duty, which should be in proportion to the strength of the Militia of each County, as will appear by the Returns.

¹A member of the Land Board for the District of Hesse, 1791-2; a member of the Land Board for the Counties of Essex and Kent, 1792-3; captain in the First Battalion of Royal Canadian Volunteers, 1796-1802; served as a staff officer with the rank of captain, 1812-3.

In making this draught it may not be improper to accept of volunteers, or of such men as are already accustomed to this Service, and explain to them that they are to be dispersed among the different Vessels, as may be considered necessary.

When this service is performed you will be pleased to thank the Militia that assembled this day for their very alert appearance. Order them to be in readiness to march whenever the exigencies of His Majesty's Service may require, and dismiss them for the present. When you have collected the Returns by Companies of the number of arms required, you will be pleased to make me a general one, and I will order the arms to be issued, which you will desire the Captains to be accountable for.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

RICHARD ENGLAND,
Senior Colonel of Militia.

The Hon. Colonel Baby, &c.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

(Confidential)

August 22nd, 1794.

Sir:

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch by the Beaver.

I think it advisable that you should order two of the King's vessels at least to Fort Erie for your Troops and Artillery. This embarkation I propose to sail in company.

I shall be under some difficulty where to encamp. I hesitate between your entrance of the Detroit River and the Heights at the mouth of the River Au Raisins, where as I cursorily passed by, it appeared to me that a central position might be safely occupied. The Militia of the River au Raisin it is my purpose immediately on my arrival to embody, to draw also from that Settlement all the supplies it can afford. As the Troops will not have Tents, I beg of you to consider by what means they can be huddled. It strikes me that boards may possibly be procured and easily forwarded to the mouth of the River.

By your augmenting the Garrison of the Miamis far beyond my intention that place has become of great consideration. I am by no means prepared to question the propriety of that measure but merely to say that such being the case, I shall turn my mind to the lessening the Garrison of Detroit, perhaps to improving the work of Fort Lernoult, and leaving a good Officer and fifty men in the Garrison, these supported with the Militia.

I shall wish to look at Maisonville's Island, and to see whether the Shipping under a Blockhouse, &c., to be erected there, might not remain in security. I shall be disposed to winter them principally at Burnt Creek, on this side of the Lake. My object is to increase our moving force and diminish that of our Garrisons.

I beg of you to consider these subjects. Can we hire Canadian horses for our Artillery? I would give a liberal price and encourage those people to the utmost. I think Caldwell and his volunteers also must be rewarded as their spirit and loyalty deserves. I am surprised I have not received a Commission for that gentleman.

I have sent down some of the Militia Acts, but I once understood in conversation with Mr. Baby that it might be as well that the Canadians should as

heretofore consider themselves as liable to the old Militia Ordinance. You of course will arrange those matters as seems expedient. Pray could you not by means of the Merchants establish a discreet person at the Delaware Village or furthest trading house on the Thames, for the purpose of forwarding expresses? He might send them on to Brant's Village, where a proper person might be found to take charge of them to Jones's, and from thence to this place. I should think it might be done more expeditiously by these means than that one person should go throughout.

The stages might be Dolson's, Delaware Village, or its vicinity, Grand River, Jones's, Niagara, and would be the beginning of our winter post.

I am, &c.,

J. G. SIMCOE.

Lieutenant Colonel England, Detroit.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, August 22nd, 10 O'clock, A.M.

Sir:

A Canadian who had been employed to work at Fort Miamis, is this instant arrived here, and says that early on last Wednesday morning the Indians and the Army under General Wayne had an engagement on the meadows near McCormick's plantation, a mile higher up the river than Colonel McKee's House, and that the Indians were defeated with considerable loss, and had retired to Nagg's plantation, leaving the Fort totally unprotected. He adds that before he came away the Army of the United States had advanced close to the Fort.

I am in strong hopes and expectation that your Excellency is on your way here, either by water or by land, with some kind of reinforcement which this Garrison requires very much, as from the sickness hitherto totally unusual, the Miamis Post has been reinforced considerably, and this place left perfectly naked; I need not add the very great satisfaction I should feel in your being here at this very critical time and indeed the necessity of orders in this unparalleled situation.

I hourly expect to hear from you or to see you, having sent you several expresses by vessels and by the river La Tranche. I was cruelly disappointed on the arrival of the Ottawa two days ago to find you were not on board her, and would have sent her immediately back, but judged you would take the Merchant Vessel now at Fort Erie, which would accomodate your Excellency and whatever Troops you would bring with you equally as well.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency Governor Simcoe, &c.

No. 2.

DETROIT, August 22nd, 1794.

½ past 10 O'clock in the morning.

Sir:

I had just closed my letter to your Excellency containing the information brought me by a runaway Canadian, when I received by express a letter from Major Campbell and Colonel McKee, both of which I now enclose for Your Excellency's

information; I must confess that I have not much reliance on any further assistance from the Indians, when they once retire after a defeat, it is not in my opinion usual for them to return again to action, from Colonel McKee's letter, I perceive he is much lower down the river than the Indians are, with what views I don't know except to endeavour to prevent them going lower.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency, Governor Simcoe, &c., &c., &c.

FROM THOMAS DUGGAN TO JOSEPH CHEW.

Extract of a letter dated DETROIT, 22d August, 1794.

I am sorry to inform you that an express is this moment arrived from the foot of the Rapids with an account of the Indians being defeated by Wayne's Army in the plains on this side Colonel McKee's Place of residence, we are informed that great numbers were killed on both sides and Wayne was advancing with his Army close to Fort Miamis and were surrounding it.

Colonel McKee is come to Point du Chene at the Mouth of the River, and the Indians retreated about six miles on this side Fort Miamis, the Militia do duty here at present.

FROM ALEXANDER MCKEE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

NEAR DRUILLIARD'S, MIAMIS, Aug. 22nd, 1794.

Sir:

The Express which is just going off to you has brought a letter from Major Campbell, informing me of his having opened a communication with General Wayne.

I am much afraid this step will not be very agreeable to the Indians who have all along been rather jealous of our having a friendly intercourse with America, and especially as the commencement of the correspondence has originated with the King's Garrison.

Some scouting parties were seen within four miles of our present camp last evening where the Indians have followed their families to place them in some secure place.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

A. MCKEE.

Colonel England, &c., &c., &c.

STATEMENT OF JAMES DAVIS.

FORT MIAMIS, 23 Aug., 1794, 2 o'clock.

James Davis, a soldier in the 1st State Regiment, deserted from the Army this morning about twelve o'clock, after they had marched near two miles from their ground.

He says his motive for deserting was hard usage and want of provisions,

he also says that a runner arrived in the American Camp last night from Philadelphia, (his name James Reynolds). Davis says his Captain, Jacob Kingsbury, told him this morning that the dispatches, the runner brought, were to order the Army back to Fort Washington.

He further says that he understood General Wayne was very anxious to attack this Garrison, but his Officers and men persuaded him not to attempt it, for if they did half of them would certainly be killed.

WM. CAMPBELL,
Major 24th Regiment.

A further part of Davis's examination goes to say that there were one hundred and fourteen killed, and one hundred and thirty wounded in the action with the Indians, and the Contractor told him yesterday that they had but four days' provisions for their Army.

FROM WILLIAM CAMPBELL TO R. G. ENGLAND.

FORT MIAMIS, 22d August, 1794.

My Dear Colonel:

I hope my express by Lt. Selbie last night has reached you ere now. It contained an account of the events that had happened here, from the date of the former together with the commencement of General Wayne's correspondence and mine. Duplicates of which, I now send you, in case of accidents. I now enclose you copies of two letters, I have had occasion to write to him this day—with his answer to my first (the original)

I would fain hope my conduct upon this occasion has been such as it ought—I have perhaps been more forbearing than an officer of higher Rank placed in my situation would have been, but I considered my situation a very delicate one, and if I have erred, It has been on the safe side. The consequences attending a too hasty conduct, might be very serious. I must leave you to your own comments on General Wayne's letters. My time at present will not permit me to give you mine. Our Garrison for the first time, are loaded, and sleep on their Alarm Posts. Three Deserters have come in to us to day—they all agree, in his being very short of Provisions—and until this morning, have had scarce anything to eat, they got a small supply from Roche De bout, where they have a Little, but even there, not much.

By his Summoning the Post we are to expect an attack—yet still I think he will not be so rash. I have taken every precaution in my power to prevent a surprise, and I think nothing else short of bringing heavy Guns against it, and of which he has none, can possibly endanger the Post. Captain Mounsey and a Reinforcement would have afforded great pleasure here, and I still look for them—at the same time I trust we shall be able to do without them—But pray do not let us despair of them—An Army of between 3 and 4000 men against a small Post, unsupported by any other is a serious consideration—Our work of late has been but trifling on account of constant Alarms.

I have not heard a word about the Indians since the Battle, therefore have not an idea where they are, or what are their plans—I still think the Communication up this River is safe—but whoever comes should conduct themselves with caution.

What Mr. Wayne's people mean by burning all the Indian hutts in the neighbourhood, and all the Hay on Colonel McKee's Island today, I cannot say. He

reconnoiter'd the Fort today in all points, quite in sight—covered by his Light Infantry and Rifle Men. It was extremely insolent—but he will never do it again with impunity—I will not detain the Express longer than to say, that I hope soon to hear from you—And I will please myself in the hopes that its not impossible but the Governor and a large Reinforcement may soon find their way to us—

With best wishes to you and yours,

I am Sir, Yours, &c.,

WM. CAMPBELL.

J.G.S.

Endorsed:—In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 34, 30 Augt., 1794.

COPY OF A LETTER FROM MAJOR CAMPBELL TO MAJOR GENERAL WAYNE.

No. 1.

Sir:

An Army of the United States of America said to be under your Command, having taken Post on the banks of the Miamis, for upwards of the last twenty four hours, almost within the reach of the Guns of this Fort, being a Post belonging to His Majesty, the King of Great Britain, occupied by His Majesty's Troops, and which I have the honor to Command, it becomes my duty to inform myself as speedily as possible in what light I am to view your making such near approaches to this Garrison—

I have no hesitation on my part to say, that I know of no War existing between Great Britain and America—

I have the honor to be, Sir,

With great Respect,

Your most obedient and very humble Servant,

WM. CAMPBELL,

Major 24th Regiment

Commanding a British Post on the Banks of the Miamis.

Miamis River, August 21st, 1794.

Major General Wayne,

Commander in Chief of an American Army,

On the Banks of the Miamis

(A true Copy)

Rd. England

J.G.S.

Endorsed:—Copy of a Letter from Major Wm. Campbell to Major Genl. Wayne, August 21st, 1794.

In Lt.-Govr. Simcoe's No. 34,

30th Augt. 1794.

COPY OF A LETTER FROM MAJOR GENERAL WAYNE TO MAJOR CAMPBELL.

Sir:

I have received your letter of this date requiring of me the Motives which have moved the Army, under my Command to the position, they now occupy, far within the acknowledged Jurisdiction of the United States of America.

Without questioning the Authority or the propriety Sir, of your interrogatory, I think I may without breach of decorum observe to you, that were you intitled to an Answer, the most full and satisfactory one was announced to you, from the Muzzels of my small Arms yesterday morning in the Action against the hoard of Savages in the vicinity of your Post, which terminated Gloriously to the American Arms—but had it continued until the Indians &c were drove under the influence of the Post and Guns you mention—they would not have much impeded the progress of the Victorious Army under my command, as no such Post was Established at the Commencement of the present War, between the Indians and the United States.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

With great Respect,

Your most Obedient and very humble Servant

ANTY WAYNE,

Major General and Commander in Chief of the Federal Army
Camp on the Banks of the Miamis, 21st August, 1794.

(A true copy)

R. ENGLAND.

Literatim, J.G.S.

To Major Wm. Campbell, &c., &c., &c.

Endorsed:—2 In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 34, 30th Augt. 1794.

COPY OF A LETTER FROM MAJOR CAMPBELL TO GENERAL WAYNE.

No. 3.

Sir:

Although your letter of yesterday's date fully authorizes me to any Act of hostility, against the Army of the United States of America, in the Neighbourhood under your Command

Yet still anxious to prevent that dreadful decision, which perhaps is not intended to be appealed to, by either of Our Countries.

I have forborne for these two days past to resent those Insults you have offered to the British Flag flying at this Fort, by approaching it within pistol shot of my Works, not only singly, but in numbers with Arms in their hands.

Neither is it my wish to wage War with Individuals, but should you after this continue to approach my post, in the threatening manner you are at this moment doing, my indispensable Duty to my King and Country, and the honor of my pro-

fession will Oblige me to have recourse to those Measures, which thousands of either Nation may hereafter have Cause to regret, and which I solemnly appeal to God, I have used my utmost endeavours to avert.

I have the honor to be Sir With much Respect
Your most obedient and very humble Servant

WILLIAM CAMPBELL

Major 24th Regt. Commanding at Fort Miamis.

Fort Miamis, August 22nd, 1794.

To Major General Wayne, &c., &c., &c.

Endorsed:—3 Copy of a letter from Major Campbell To General Wayne, Fort Miamis August 22nd, 1794.

In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 34 30th Augt. 1794

FROM ANTHONY WAYNE TO WILLIAM CAMPBELL.

No. 4

CAMP, BANK OF THE MIAMIS, 22 August, 1794.

Sir:

In your letter of the 21 instant you declare "I have no hesitation on my part to say, that I know of no War Existing between Great Britain & America;"

I, on my part, declare the same, and that the only cause I have to entertain a contrary idea at present, is the hostile Act that you are now in commission of, i.e. by recently taking post far within the well known and acknowledged limits of the United States, and erecting a Fortification in the Heart of the settlements of the Indian Tribes, now at war with the United States.

This, Sir, appears to be an Act of the highest aggression, and destructive to the peace and interest of the Union:—hence it becomes my duty to desire, and I do hereby desire and demand in the name of the President of the United States that you immediately desist from any further Act of Hostility or aggression:—by forbearing to fortify and by withdrawing the troops, Artillery and Stores under your orders and directions forthwith, and removing to the nearest post occupied by his Britannick Majesty's Troops at the peace of 1783:—and which you will be permitted to do, unmolested by the troops under my command.

I am with very great respect, Sir

Your most obedt & very hum'l Serv't

ANT'Y WAYNE.

J.G.S.

Major Wm. Campbell, &c., &c., &c.

Endorsed:—4 Letter from General Wayne, 22d. Augst. 1794. To Major Campbell.

In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 34. 30th Augt. 1794.

COPY OF A LETTER FROM MAJOR CAMPBELL TO GENERAL WAYNE.

No. 5

Sir:

I have this moment the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date—In answer to which I have only to say, that being placed here in the Command of a British Post, and acting in a Military Capacity only, I cannot enter into any discussion either on the right, or impropriety, of my occupying my present position, those are matters that I conceive will be best left to the Ambassadors of Our different Nations.

Having said this much, Sir, permit me to inform you, that I certainly will not abandon this Post, at the Summons of Any power whatever, until I receive Orders to that purpose from those I have the honor to serve under—

I must still adhere to the purport of my letter this morning, to desire that your Army or Individuals belonging to it, will not approach within reach of my Cannon, without expecting the Consequences attending it.

Although I have said in the former part of my letter that my situation here is totally Military, yet, let me add, Sir, that I am much deceived if His Majesty the King of Great Britain had not a post upon this River, and prior, to the period you mention.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

With the greatest Respect

Your most Obedient and very humble servant

WILLIAM CAMPBELL.

Major 24th Reg't. Commanding at Fort Miamis.

Fort Miamis, Augt. 22d 1794.

To Major General Wayne, &c &c &c

Endorsed:—5 Copy Of a letter from Major Campbell To General Wayne, August 22nd, 1794.

In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 34 30th Augt. 1794.

FROM WILLIAM CAMPBELL TO JOSEPH BUNBURY.

FORT MIAMIS, 22d Aug. 1794.

10 O'clock at night.

Dear Sir:

Since I wrote to you last night, a further correspondence has pass'd between Genl. Wayne & me this day, The result of which has been, that he has summon'd me (to surrender this Post) in the name of the President of the United States, you may believe I have given him that answer, that I considered consistant with the duty I owe to my King and Country and I trust if he attacks us this night, he will not find us unprepared.

He says, that as I have made no hesitation in declaring that I know of no war existing between Great Britain and America, He in his part, acknowledges the same, and the only cause he has to entertain a different idea at present, is the hostile act that I am now in Commission of by recently taking Post far within the well known and acknowledged limits of the United States, and erecting a Fortification

in the heart of the settlement of the Indian Tribes now at war with the U.S. This he says is an act of the highest aggression, and destructive of the peace and interest of the Union, &c.

I have given you the principal part of his letter, and I have only to add that I shall be happy to hear from you, and in the mean time, that you will write a few lines to the Commodore on board the Chippawa to say whether you think it will be safe to permit any reinforcement coming up the River. My own opinion at present is, that there is no danger.

Should anything pass between Genl. Wayne & me this night or to-morrow, that is to say even if there should be no serious attack upon this Post, yet should he continue the same line of conduct he has done for two days past, by reconnoitring under my guns, I shall certainly fire upon him.

As I afterwards will probably fire a morning and evening gun, I mention this that you may understand, it is no alarm. But should you hear more Cannon, you may conclude hostilities have seriously commenced, and you will act accordingly. Excuse haste and believe me Dear Sir,

Your very obedient and faithful humble servant,

WM. CAMPBELL.

To Captain Bunbury.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM MR. THOS. DUGGAN TO JOSEPH CHEW,
SECRETARY OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, DATED DETROIT
23RD AUGUST, 1794, 12 O'CLOCK AT NIGHT.

In my letter of yesterday I mentioned to you that the Indians were defeated at the same side and below Colonel McKee's Place of Residence at the Miamis Rapids, before I began this letter I drew something like a Sketch with a Pencil to Contradict my Account of yesterday which was owing to hurry. The Militia do duty here and I am just going the Rounds, so shall leave this unfinished untill my return. half after 12—I am just returned from my rounds, nothing Extraordinary, all is well at Present. God knows how long it will be so as there are a great Number of disaffected persons here.—it is reported the Americans have surrounded Fort Miamis and intend to Attack it. the Sketch above mentioned you will find by Turning over this.

I am informed Colo. McKee's house is about 2 miles above the Fort & Knags about 2 miles below it—the distances of the other Places I am not able to ascertain.

J. C.

GENERAL ORDER BY GENERAL ANTHONY WAYNE.

(Enclosed in a letter from Major John H. Buell to General Knox, dated Greenville, 6 October, 1794, and intercepted by the Indians.)

HEADQUARTERS, BANKS OF THE MIAMIS,
23rd August, 1794.

The Commander in Chief takes this opportunity to congratulate the Federal Army upon their Brilliant success in the action of the 20th Ins't, against the whole Combined Force of the hostile Savages, aided by a body of the Militia of Detroit,

and Countenanced by the British Post and Garrison, close on their rear, beyond which the Fugitives fled, with disorder, precipitation and dismay—leaving their packs, provision, and plunder in their encampment in the rear of that post.—

The Indians to all appearances, having totally abandoned their Settlements quite to the mouth of the River, and their Villages and Cornfields being consumed and Destroyed in every direction, even under the influence of the Guns of Fort Miamis, facts, which must produce a conviction to the minds of the Savages that the British have neither the power or inclination to Afford them that protection which they had been taught to expect, but on the Contrary, a numerous Garrison, well supplied with Artillery have been compelled to remain tacit Spectators of the General conflagration round them and their Flag displayed at this post, insulted with impunity, to the disgrace of the British and to the honour of the American Arms;—The Commander in Chief therefore requests the Army in general and every Commissioned officer in particular from the Generals down to the Ensigns, to accept of his most grateful thanks, for their good conduct, example, and bravery upon the late glorious and important occasion, and which shall be faithfully and particularly mentioned in his official communications to the honor and Satisfaction of every Officer whose Rank & Situation Placed their Conduct in a conspicuous point of view; and which was observed with pleasure and gratitude By the General. —Nothing now remains but to pay these Military honor due to the Names of the dead Heroes who purchased Victory with their precious blood, among whom we have to lament the early Death of that great and gallant Officer Captain Campbell and the intrepid Lieutenant Fowler.—Three rounds of shells from the Artillery will be discharged at 12 o'clock at the funeral Ceremony after a Solemn *derge* performed by the Musick.—The Troops remaining under arms in their present position; it will also serve for the Army to take up the Line of March, which will be in the same order but inverted as that by which we advanced.

JOHN H. BUELL, MAJOR.

A true Copy.

M. Elliott

etc., etc., etc.

Montreal 7th Dec'r. 1794

A True Copy

Joseph Chew, S.I.A.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NAVY HALL, August 23rd, 1794.

My Lord:

I do myself the honor of transmitting to Your Lordship letters which I have received from Lt. Col. England and Colonel McKee, together with their enclosures.

I have thought it proper to embark with Captain Bunbury the detachment of the Queen's Rangers, which I mentioned to have been at Fort Erie.

He sailed on the 17th of this month in a Merchant Vessel.

I have also directed Captain Pratt, an Officer in whom I have the greatest confidence, and therefore unwillingly detached from Fort Erie, to proceed in other merchant vessels to Detroit. I hope he will be ready with his party to sail on the twenty fifth.

By the time that the King's Vessels shall arrive at Fort Erie, I hope to sail with the Queen's Rangers, and if I can call out a detachment of the Militia, as I

propose, in sufficient time, with the complement of the 5th Regiment usually detached to Fort Erie and Chippaway and at the Landing.

I have had much conversation with Captain Brant. Your Lordship will see by the enclosed paper that the Government of the States mean to cajole the Six Nations.

A hunting party, supposed to be Senecas, were lately killed near the Painted Post.

The Tuscaroras mean to cross the River. Brant, with every man he can muster, is determined to join the Western Indians. He says "our fate depends upon the repulse of Wayne."

I have not lately heard of the Corn Planter; his not being at the Council is the reason Brant says that the Six Nations have declined giving any answer to the message of General Chapin, and which they have alleged to that gentleman, meaning to temporize.

It is understood that Chapin, Williamson, and young Morris are vested with powers to build Forts or Blockhouses on the cross roads at the Conjocto Creek and at Henry's where the road crosses from the Genesee to Niagara.

I propose to direct Capt. Porter to reinforce Oswego, should it be threatened in my absence.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

The Rt. Hon. Lord Dorchester.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

No. 33.

UPPER CANADA, NAVY HALL

August 23d, 1794.

Sir:

Since my letter of the 13th of August General Wayne has advanced to the Glaize but has not since proceeded so rapidly as might have been, by which means the fort at the Miamis is reported to me to be in a perfect state of defence.

I mean to proceed to that District with nearly four hundred troops, hoping to confirm the Indians, and to animate the Militia to such exertions as may be necessary—Lieut. Colonel England (probably on sufficient Reasons) by augmenting the Garrison at the Miamis far beyond what I conceived necessary when I proportioned the fortress to the existing force, and the Circumstances of the Country, has rendered this Point the main object of consideration, and consequently the maintenance of Detroit must depend on the protection which can be afforded to this Post; which may now be considered as its Citadel.

The Indians are assembled to the amount of thirteen hundred Warriors almost under its Guns.

Wayne's force is 1500 Kentucky Militia and 1800 Continental Troops, well disciplined and in high Spirits—among these are nearly three hundred Cavalry. I know it is a most unseasonable time to speak of this most important Species of Troops, and that the Ignorance of those who had the management of them during the late American War, has naturally induced an Opinion, that Cavalry were useless in America; but I must state to you, Sir, that a body of Cavalry in this Country,

of good English Cavalry with American Horses, is a cheap and most essential requisite for its maintenance.

I am still in hopes to prevent the Indians of the Six Nations from giving way to the Arts of the People of the States & admitting them to possess themselves of Presqu'Isle—I enclose some late Communications for your Information.

I have not hesitated to state to Lord Dorchester "that if Wayne be permitted to establish himself at the Detroit, It may occasion the loss of both Canadas."

It will not escape you, Sir, nor I should hope, His Lordship, that if the Indians are detached from our Interests, and the road by which Wayne has proceeded, be opened for the unmolested March of the Southern States, that of the Cayahoga and Presqu'Isle must immediately follow, and an inundation of Settlers from the back Country, as formidable in the woods, as the New Englanders, will be found on the Lakes, will immediately combine in overwhelming this Province—I beg to conclude this Dispatch with the same Observations that I lately made to Lord Dorchester, "I need not represent to your experience that it is almost impracticable to form any kind of satisfactory system in War, but it is peculiarly so, where the powers to be combined are a scanty and divided Army, indefensible Fortresses, unprovided Arsenals, an untried Militia and Indian Allies, in such difficulties all that a zealous Servant of His King has to offer, is the exertion of his best Abilities."

I have the honor to be with great Respect, Sir,

Your most Obedient and most humble Servant,

J. G. SIMCOE.

The Right Honorable Henry Dundas, &c., &c., &c.

Endorsed:—Upper Canada, 23d Aug. 1794. Lt. Govr. Simcoe. R. 13th Decr. No. 33. (Five Inclosures.)

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO R. G. ENGLAND.

NAVY HALL, August 23rd, 1794.

Sir:

I have been duly favoured with your letters by the Beaver and the Nancy and their enclosures, dated Aug. 15th and 17th. Captain Pratt is sent in the Nancy for the sake of dispatch with the detachment of the 5th Regiment. He is to proceed immediately to Detroit, or in case of adverse winds to Turtle Island, placing himself under your command. This detachment with Captain Bunbury's will amount to one hundred rank and file proportionately officered. I have in contemplation to make a further detachment from that Regiment so soon as circumstances shall permit.

I hope to be ready to embark a sufficient number of the Queen's Rangers to complete the men of that Corps now under your command to two hundred Rank and File so soon as Vessels shall arrive at Fort Erie. It is possible that Captain Seward will also embark with as many of the Royal Artillery as can possibly be spared from this place.

I shall pay every possible attention to your request relative to Provisions, but I shall be glad on my arrival to know what quantity of fresh Provisions can be procured for the Soldiers, and at what price, it most certainly being advisable to exhaust the Country between Detroit and the Miamis so soon as possible. You

will be so good as to purchase what flour you can procure. I recommend you to provide against disaster to consult with Colonel McKee whether it might not be prudent to point out to the Indians the course in which they should retreat, and to consider whether the King's territory between the Chanail Ecarté and the Thames or higher up beyond our Settlers on that former River may not be a proper situation.

It is possible that Mr. Wayne's message to the Indians, which with the papers annexed, I have read with considerable attention, may with other circumstances have in your opinion, rendered it expedient to transmit Lord Dorchester's protest to that Gentleman.

I believe Brant, with all the Force he can muster, means to proceed to the Miamis. The people of the States are cajoling the Six Nations and reinforcing Le Boeuf. Pray think on obtaining a Militia Company of Batteaux Men. The Militia, if called out, must be victualled, and I should suppose that paying them the stated allowance, as settled by the Commissary General for a ration, would be more satisfactory to them and useful to Government.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Lieutenant Colonel England, Detroit.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, August 23rd, 1794
4 O'clock P.M.

Sir:

Previous to my being honored with your Excellency's commands of the 17th inst., I took upon me to assemble the Militia of the Counties of Essex and Kent in consequence of the rapid advance of the Army under General Wayne, and the repeated information I received of his intentions being hostile to this Post and Settlement, all the particulars of which I have had the honor to communicate to your Excellency by different expresses. And now I enclose for your inspection the instructions and orders issued by me to the Honorable Colonel Baby and the Senior Officer of the Essex Militia. I was at the time perfectly sensible that the measure was not legal until authorized by your Excellency, but considered myself justifiable from the existing circumstances. Should any part of the instructions and orders I issued not meet with your approbation, I will feel myself obliged to you to point them out that they may in future be avoided.

The Militia of this town very readily offered their service, and now assist in part of the duties of the Garrison. The Militia on both sides of the River Thames came down here by Companies to the number of sixty-seven immediately on the receipt of the first order with great alacrity and cheerfulness. I have armed them all and given them provisions and propose to detain them until I am more informed of General Wayne's intentions. Fortunately the Attorney General brought here the Amendment to the Provincial Militia Act which enabled me to direct a draught to be made of thirty men from the Canadian Militia to serve on Board His Majesty's Armed Vessels and Gun Boats on Lake Erie, which with much difficulty was accomplished by the exertions of the Honorable Colonel Baby, to whose assistance in all Militia arrangements I feel myself much indebted. If this measure had not been adopted, the Gun Boats and some one of the large Vessels must have been

laid up as many of the seamen have been discharged in consequence of their time having expired, and the Officers and men on Board the Gun Boats are to a man seized with the same fever which prevails among the Officers and Troops at Miamis Bay, which I am concerned to report, has proved fatal to some and I apprehend will to many more. The two Gun Boats are now once more manned and gone out to Turtle Island to be stationed as Captain Bunbury may direct agreeably to your orders. A small one is yet here in readiness for service, and I have written to Commodore Grant, who is stationed in the Chippawa in Miamis Bay, as before reported, to send me some person to navigate her that I could venture to entrust therewith. The Commandant's Boat shall be fitted with a six pounder as directed, but except I put one of the field pieces now mounted in her, there is not a Gun here of that Calibre that is not by far too heavy for her. The Proprietors of the Detroit Sloop which you have seen and know, have very handsomely offered me the use of her and her crew, to be converted into any purpose that Government may require, without any charge on their part. She is unluckily at Mackinac, but her return is expected every day. Our assistant builder went on board the Chippawa to the Miamis Bay and was sent up with some stores to the Fort, where Lieutenant Pilkington seized on him and three more ship Carpenters and has unluckily detained them. The assistant builder¹ is a fine, active, gallant fellow and too great a prize to be parted with from such a situation, however necessary his services may be here.

I have not received any other official accounts of the action between the Indians and the Army under General Wayne than what I have transmitted your Excellency, but I am concerned to hear that so many worthy men have fallen, among the number Mr. Charles Smith, clerk of the Court here, and Captain McKillop, formerly of Butler's Rangers and lately appointed a Captain of the Essex Militia in the New Settlement on Lake Erie. That very very odd but very gallant fellow, Lieutenant Colonel Caldwell, who early went out to Fort Miamis with nearly sixty men from the new settlement, was in the action, I believe, with all his people, and as I am informed very gallantly with the Wyndots only, covered the Indians when retreating, and bore the heaviest part of the action against the Light Cavalry without moving for a long time, and my information states that Lieutenant Colonel Caldwell lost five of his people, besides Captain McKillop, who has left a very large family and was a thriving, rising, industrious man and of very great use in his settlement. I request you will be pleased to give me your orders relative to paying the Militia draughted on Board His Majesty's Armed Vessels which I observe the Act is silent about, and also your orders about paying the Militia from the River Thames now here and the other Militia from distant Districts that I may have occasion to assemble.

I think it right to apprise your Excellency that there is no kind of dependence to be placed in the French Militia, they have manifested upon every occasion a shameful and disgraceful backwardness and such a mutinous conduct as to oblige Colonel Baby to enter proceedings against them which he means to pursue at the approaching Court of Oyer and Terminer. I endeavour by fair words to make friends of them at the same time I feel it my duty to support Colonel Baby in his authority over them and threatening to enforce the Militia Laws. They are to a man stubborn and mutinous and their conduct so very improper as hitherto to prevent me from giving them arms. I have armed all the town Militia, as exceptions in so small a body could not well be made, particularly as they now take part

¹ William Baker.

of the duty. The hundred and eight Canadians which I sent to assist at the work at Fort Miamis all deserted at the first alarm.

I beg leave to suggest to Your Excellency the propriety of increasing the quantity of provisions for this Post as I apprehend we shall have a great number of Indians to feed during the Winter and probably some Militia and the demand hitherto made on the stores has been excessively heavy.

I omitted reporting that the fever the men brought with them from the Miamis is now running among the officers and men of this Garrison. There are but three Artillerymen fit for duty or likely to be for some time and in the 24th Regiment there are but 78 effective duty men. Your Excellency's orders relative to the recruits of the Queen's Rangers, and other detachments of that Corps shall be attended to when circumstances will admit.

I have the honor to be, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency Lieut. Govr. Simcoe.

DETROIT, August 23rd, 1794.

Sir:

I had the honor to forward to your Excellency early yesterday morning by express by land the information I that moment received from a Canadian that ran away from his work at Fort Miamis, and also copies of letters that I immediately after received from Major Campbell and Colonel McKee, and now send your Excellency by the Felicity duplicates of this information and those letters.

I also have the honor to enclose herewith copies of letters I this day received from Major Campbell and Colonel McKee, accompanied with copies of a letter from Major Campbell to General Wayne, and his answer. Some days since I sent Major Campbell some instructions which from the difficulty of getting to the Fort did not reach him or I am certain he would not have commenced a communication with General Wayne, and his letter when he did write would have been fuller.

I have the honor to be, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency Lieut. Gov. Simcoe.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, August 23rd, 1794.
Four o'clock.

Sir:

In a former letter I had the honor to report to your Excellency that I had sent Mr. Montigny to Fort Miamis, and instructed him to return from thence to the River Raisin for the purposes I then mentioned, and I have now the honor to enclose herewith copies of my instructions to him and also his letters to me. I have not failed on receipt of his last letter to immediately inform him that it was by no means my intention or any part of my instructions to him to burn or destroy the Barns or habitations or even the Mills, except the Inhabitants chose to abandon their Settlement immediately.

I imagine General Wayne has not much Provision with him, and he must therefore make a dash with his Cavalry and Militia to endeavour to get some, now

that the Indians are partly dispersed. I should not be surprised if he shortly advanced his Light Troops to the neighbourhood of this Settlement, though it would be a very bold measure.

As no opportunity will probably offer for Mackinac till it is too late in the season for Le Dru, the Missionary Priest, to leave, I feel puzzled what to do with him. He has proposed to me going by the way of Sandusky to Fort Pitt, which I would not consent to till I had your approbation. The unfortunate creature is so poor that I am obliged to give him rations.

I hope I shall soon be honored with Commands from your Excellency. You will perceive by my letters that this Country is at present in such a state as to require your orders and directions on many occasions.

I have the honor to be, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

I have not suspended the Transport more than the Service of the Vessels became necessary here. The Dunmore and Ottawa returned in ballast from Fort Erie.

R. E.

To His Excellency Lieutenant Governor Simcoe.

FROM WILLIAM CAMPBELL TO ALEXANDER McKEE.

Dear Sir:

I wrote you a few lines last night, written in a hurry, I hope it has reach'd you, and that you hastened the Express on to Detroit.

A Deserter has this moment arrived in the Fort, who made his escape from your Island, I refer you his examinations which I now enclose, and as I consider it may be of great consequence to you to be inform'd as soon as possible, I lose not a moment in forwarding it to you. You are of course the best judge what use to make of it, but I should not be surprised if the firm language I held yesterday has occasion'd his making this retrograde movement if true.

Could you forward this intelligence to Detroit, it might relieve their minds there, from much anxiety.

Believe me Dear Sir,

with truth, your very obedt. Servant.

WM. CAMPBELL.

Fort Miamis, 23rd August, 1794. $\frac{1}{2}$ Past 2 o'Clock Noon.

I leave it to you to forward the Deserter's information to Col. England, as soon as possible, as I think it of too much consequence to you to delay have one instant to copy it.

W.C.

Col. England never had a copy of the answer the Indians sent Genl. Wayne, he supposed you forgot it by accident perhaps you will send it to him now.

W.C.

FROM J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

NIAGARA, August 24th, 1794.

My Lord:

In conversation with Captain Brant and by a report from Mr. Johnson, I find that Colonel Pickering and others, Commissioners, are intended to meet the Six Nations at the Treaty proposed. They will bring with them a great quantity of Indian presents.

I cannot but again observe to Your Lordship the necessity there is for the King's presents to be sent forward without a moment's loss of time.

I have been obliged to pay the Indians who accompanied me through the Country to the Miamis in specie.

I am, &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

To the Right Honble. Lord Dorchester.

FROM WILLIAM CAMPBELL TO J. G. SIMCOE.

Sir:

As I consider the events of yesterday of such moment for your Excellency's immediate information, I have taken upon me to direct Commodore Grant, who is now off Turtle Island, to dispatch one of the Vessels under his Command to Fort Erie forthwith; and I now do myself the honor to forward by this conveyance, the examination of James Davis, a deserter, who made his escape into the Fort about two o'clock yesterday, and the information that he brought was afterwards corroborated by two more deserters who got in here in the course of the evening. They particularly agree with him in his account of the want of provisions. They did not hear of any express having arrived from Philadelphia, but they say there was an express arrived in Camp that morning, which they imagined was from Fort Greenville, but were not certain.

In consequence of Davis's information I instantly dispatched a copy of it to Col. McKee, who was with the Indians at Point au Chêne, and this morning great numbers of them are going upwards. As they are mostly mounted I make no doubt but they will soon fall in with the rear of the American Army, as the deserters think they would not march further than the Roche de Bout yesterday.

I also do myself the honor to enclose to Your Excellency copies of my correspondence with General Wayne since his Army came into this neighbourhood, lest those sent by Col. England, with whom I regularly communicated, should not yet have come to hand, and I shall be extremely anxious until I know that my conduct meets with your Excellency's approbation. I considered my situation a very delicate one, and perhaps I had more forbearance than an Officer of higher rank, placed in my situation, might have thought necessary. As I take for granted Col. England has constantly transmitted extracts or the purport of my correspondence with him, since I have had the honor to Command this Post, I will not now trouble you Sir with a repetition.

Permit me Sir to mention that Lt. Pilkington has been indefatigable in his exertions to put this Post in the best possible state of defence the circumstances of the times and the difficulty he laboured under would allow. For though Captain

Stiell had rendered him every assistance that he possibly could his small Garrison was so worn down with sickness and fatigue that untill my arrival with a reinforcement of two Companies, the works could not make any very rapid progress. Col. England has also since that afforded every assistance he could possibly muster of Canadians, upwards of one hundred arrived in the course of a few days. But from the natural indolence and listlessness of some, and the timidity of others, who ran away when things were likely to become serious, they have not afforded that assistance which might have been expected.

I should be ungrateful if I omitted to mention to your Excellency the constant support and zealous attention I have received from Captain Stiell in the duty of this Post, and I have to except from my observations respecting the conduct of the Canadians, Capt. Rheame,¹ with his Compy, 7 and thirty from the River Raisin, and a good many more volunteers who have remained in the Fort, and expressed their willingness to do their utmost. I further take the liberty to mention Mr. Shafflin,² who has also remained in the Fort, and most zealously and cheerfully done everything in his power to make himself useful, and I am convinced had the Fort been attacked I should have found much assistance from him, as I had given him the Command of thirty volunteer Canadians.

Commodore Grant has been very attentive in ordering up our Guns and stores. Captain Harrow has used every exertion in bringing them to us. I have omitted to mention that Lt. Adye has been a very active assistant to Lt. Pilkington in the Engineer's Department, as also in the judicious disposition of his Guns.

I have this morning a letter from Captain Bunbury from Turtle Island, dated the 22nd inst., and I understand the Dunmore has been beating off the Island for several days with a contrary wind, with Troops on board for this place.

I am extremely sorry to say that sickness still prevails much amongst us here. Of Captain Stiell's original Garrison not a man has escaped being ill, and many of them have relapsed a first and second time. Before my arrival Captain Stiell sent fifteen of his worst cases to Detroit. Since I came I have sent twenty-five, and I have in this Morning's report of the 24th Regiment only, no less than 40. Few of them are bad cases, and I hope with change of air they may recover.

I have the honor to be, &c.

WILLIAM CAMPBELL,

Major 24th Regiment, Commanding at Fort Miamis.
Fort Miamis, 24th Aug. 1794.

P.S. Since writing the above another deserter has come in. I have the honor to enclose his examination. Eleven deserters have come into the Fort since yesterday.

His Excellency Lt. Govr. Simcoe.

STATEMENT OF RICHARD ROBISON.

FORT MIAMIS, August 24th, 1794.

The examination of Richard Robison, an American soldier, born at Newcastle in England, came to America seven years ago, and enlisted about four years ago

¹ Probably Charles Reaume, afterwards an interpreter in the Indian department.

² Probably Jacob Schieffelin, formerly a lieutenant in the Detroit Volunteers and secretary to the Indian department.

in the American Army, he left General Wayne's this morning six miles above the Fort. The Army is in great distress for provisions, not having more than fifty barrels of flour with it.

It was supposed to be General Wayne's intention to attack this Fort and that he was prevented by finding it was defended by heavy cannon.

General Wayne gives out that he means now to go to Fort Grenville, and to return in the fall with heavy cannon, and to build several Forts between the Glaize and this place. Many soldiers wished to desert from the American Army, but were deterred from the fear they have of falling into the hands of the Indians.

WM. CAMPBELL,
Major 24th Regiment.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, August 24th, 5 O'clock, P.M.

Sir:

I had just sent orders to the Felicity to get under way when I received from Major Campbell, the very important intelligence which I herewith enclose to your Excellency. The Major's second letter is spirited and proper, and I trust his conduct with General Wayne will meet your Excellency's approbation.

I have sent directions to Captain Bunbury to send him if possible some reinforcement, but desired him to remain in charge of Turtle Island. I don't know what Colonel McKee means by desiring all the force of the Country to assemble for the support of the Indians who have already in a dastardly, cowardly manner retired to Miamis Bay, and left the Fort totally unprotected, the only assistance I can imagine for Major Campbell, is such as Capt. Bunbury can afford him, which I fear cannot be more than half his detachment.

I have the honor to be, &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

His Excellency Lieut. Gov. Simcoe.

FROM R. G. ENGLAND TO J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT, August 24th, 4 O'clock P.M.

My Dear Sir:

In consequence of a heavy storm and violent head-wind the Felicity was detained until this moment. Since I wrote to your Excellency yesterday I have not heard a syllable from Fort Miamis, when I do, you may rest assured I will not fail to inform you.

I am &c.

R. G. ENGLAND.

I send by the Felicity three Americans taken prisoners formerly by the Indians.

His Excellency Lieut. Gov. Simcoe.

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